

W. Bank students stage protest

TEL AVIV (R) — Palestinian students in the Israeli-occupied West Bank held protest strikes Tuesday against foreign professors who signed Israeli work permits forbidding them from helping the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), university administrators said. All foreign lecturers at West Bank universities must sign the controversial permits which, under an Israeli regulation instituted last year, prohibit helping the PLO. The protests were at Hebron and Al Najah universities. Students at Hebron said they would refuse to attend classes for three days, while those at Al Najah set no time limit on their strike. West Bank universities depend heavily on visiting foreign lecturers for their teaching staff. Dozens of foreign lecturers were expelled last year for refusing to sign the permits.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورديان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة منشورة من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Israel asked not to harass students

GENEVA (R) — The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) Tuesday asked Israel to ensure that students in the occupied West Bank are not arrested and prevented from taking their examinations. The Geneva-based organisation said it had received from its West Bank affiliate a report saying that in June last year more than 30 students there were arrested by Israeli security forces and were released when it was too late for them to sit for all or part of their matriculation examinations. "None of them were given any reason for their arrest, nor were they interrogated or charged with any offence," the jurists said in a statement. The report, which was sent to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, "clearly indicates that the students were deliberately arrested in order to make them miss their examinations," the ICJ added.

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King, Queen to visit India

AMMAN (J.T.) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor will pay a state visit to India at the invitation of Indian President Giani Zail Singh this month, the Royal Court said Tuesday. The visit, in the last week of January, will last several days, the statement said.

Israeli wounded in S. Lebanon attack

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli soldier was wounded by a roadside bomb in South Lebanon Tuesday, a military spokesman said. The bomb exploded as an Israeli convoy passed about 5 kilometres south of the Zaharani River on the Lebanese coastal road.

Turkish jails 8 pipeline saboteurs

ANKARA (R) — Eight people were jailed for up to 12 years Tuesday in the south-eastern Turkish city of Diyarbakir for twice blowing up Iraq's vital oil pipeline to Turkey's Mediterranean coast, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported. The pipeline runs from Kirkuk in central Iraq through Iraq and Turkey areas heavily populated by Kurds to the Turkish Mediterranean coast. It was blown up on Turkish territory on both occasions.

2 more detained for Kuwait blasts

BAHRAIN (R) — Two more people have been detained in connection with a wave of bomb attacks in Kuwait last month, including blasts at the U.S. and French embassies, the Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) said Tuesday. A total of 21 people have now been detained in connection with the Dec. 12 bombings in which five people died and more than 60 were injured.

Benazir Bhutto off to Europe

KARACHI (R) — Benazir Bhutto, elder daughter of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and one of Pakistan's most prominent political figures, flew to Europe for medical treatment Tuesday after the military authorities released her from almost three years of custody. Miss Bhutto, 30, left Karachi in the early hours of the morning with her younger sister, Sanam, and family sources said they were going to Zurich.

1 killed in Corsican blast

AJACCIO, Corsica (R) — One person was killed and another seriously injured in a bomb explosion late Monday night at Capo di Muro, a village near this southern Corsican town, police said Tuesday. Police gave no further details of the explosion, but also reported bomb attacks Tuesday morning in which eight holiday villas thought to belong to mainland French citizens were destroyed. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks, but police believe they were the work of Corsican separatists.

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'Obeidat heads new government

By Kila Nasrallah and Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times staff writers

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday appointed Ahmad 'Obeidat as the new prime minister after accepting the resignation of Mr. Mudar Badran and his cabinet. The King also approved the new 20-member cabinet formed by Mr. 'Obeidat who nominated Suleiman Arar as deputy prime minister and interior minister.

Mr. Badran, in his letter of resignation to King Hussein, expressed appreciation to the King for allowing him and his colleagues to serve the country under his leadership and in the context of the national aspirations outlined in the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

Mr. Badran said his government had done its best to carry out the King's directives and scored many achievements despite the many difficulties and problems confronting the Middle East.

The government was able to make these achievements under the wise leadership of the King, Mr. Badran said.

He was submitting his government's resignation following the resumption of parliamentary life in Jordan and in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, Mr. Badran said. He also renewed his allegiance to the Hashemite Throne, pledging to remain a faithful servant of the King and the nation.

The King referred to the various achievements of the Badran government and praised the relentless work of the outgoing cabinet to reach them.

King voices appreciation

King Hussein, in his reply to Mr. Badran's letter of resignation, voiced appreciation of the outgoing prime minister's loyalty to the throne and his endeavours to serve the country and to achieve progress and prosperity for the nation.

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King's guidelines

King Hussein also sent a letter to Mr. 'Obeidat designating him to form a new government. Following are excerpts of the King's letter:

"Following the resignation of Mr. Mudar Badran's government, I designate you to form a new government to pursue the mission and the tasks required by the nation, and I hope you and your colleagues will be able to carry on with the government's duties with true determination and diligence and translate in words and deeds full parliamentary life in the country."

"I hope that the parliament and the government will work hand in hand within the framework of democratic rule with all that democracy entails. This democratic life should serve as an extension and depth of the national unity of this country, and should display a strong cohesion between the peoples of the two banks of the Jordan River who had been confronting danger and challenges, sharing a common destiny."

"The Palestine problem has been, and still is, the first and foremost national issue for Jordan influencing the country's overall policies. The Palestine problem was created by Israel's aggression and occupation of Palestine and

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"The Palestine problem has been, and still is, the first and foremost national issue for Jordan influencing the country's overall policies. The Palestine problem was created by Israel's aggression and occupation of Palestine and

expansionist ambitions in our region. This aggression has brought about the struggle of the Palestinian people who are striving to regain their homeland."

"This Israeli aggression is directly affecting Jordan more than any other Arab country. Both Palestinians and Jordanians face a common fate and this requires from them to step up their efforts at the national level to achieve their aspirations."

"In the light of these facts, we are determined to pursue the possible dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people for the sake of reaching a formula within a framework of mutual trust and determination to attain our goals and putting an end to occupation."

"Jordan will therefore honour its pledges and commitments as it did in the past. This constitutes a nucleus for a firm and common action on the Arab level for serving the Palestine cause, and forms a starting point in a sound course to fulfill the Palestinian and Jordanian aspirations."

"The Jordanian-Palestinian march has never been at expense of the final solution of the Palestine problem, but was a positive

factor for arriving at the ultimate solution."

"We, Jordanians and Palestinians, who are basically and directly concerned more than any others, are required to coordinate and concert efforts, so as to arrive at a successful formula for future action aimed at liberating our homeland and saving our kinsmen from occupation."



New Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat takes the oath of office Tuesday in the presence of His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

Lebanese government to regain full sovereignty over Lebanon's territory.

"This is our policy and we will continue to mobilise all our efforts at the regional and international levels to achieve its aims."

"On the domestic front, we will continue to bolster and strengthen our armed forces, the shield of our nation, and we will provide these forces with the best possible training and weaponry to enable them to carry their duty in the best possible manner."

"We are also determined to devote all efforts for developing our educational institutions and to link educational programmes with requirements of development."

"You are assuming your duty amidst hard economic times affecting our region and our country which call for increased efforts aimed at averting all negative influences that might harm our economy because this economy is an integral part of our steadfastness in the face of challenges."

"Jordan has achieved so much in industry and construction as well as public services like education, roads, hospitals and we have to maintain and develop these achievements and try to attain perfection in our drive for progress and prosperity."

"Each citizen should have his or her share in shouldering the responsibility in building the country and has the right to be provided with all that he or she needs in education, housing, health and other fields that should be satisfied to ensure a healthy and prosperous nation."

'Obeidat replies to King

In reply to the King's letter, Mr. 'Obeidat expressed deep pride and gratitude to the King for his trust in appointing him as prime minister.

"The letter of appointment will serve as guideline to the new government which will work under the wise leadership of the King," Mr. 'Obeidat said in his reply.

He said that the government will do whatever it can to strengthen the armed forces, bolster national unity and enhance the country's stability and security.

"With the return of parliamentary life to the country we will seek the people's participation in running the affairs of the country in a democratic and responsible manner," Mr. 'Obeidat said. "We will help Jordan to fulfil its commitments on the Arab and international level as outlined in your letter," the new prime minister said in his reply to the King.

"The Jordanian-Palestinian relationship will be our main concern and we will do all we can to serve the people of both banks of the Jordan River and will work together with our Palestinian brothers and the PLO which is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people to attain our aspired goals," Mr. 'Obeidat concluded.

King hospitalised: condition reported good and stable

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein was admitted to the King Hussein Medical Centre Monday suffering from a bleeding stomach ulcer and was reported to be in good and stable condition Tuesday.

A bulletin issued by King Hussein's private physician said that the King will have to remain in hospital for a few days more.

Israeli pact hampers talks on Lebanon reconciliation

BEIRUT (R) — Talks on Lebanon between the foreign ministers of Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syria over the weekend were inconclusive because of failure to reach agreement on the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal agreement, government sources in Beirut said Tuesday.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem and his Syrian counterpart Abdul Halim Khaddam had two days of talks in Riyadh with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal on ways to reconvene a Lebanese national reconciliation conference adjourned in Geneva in November.

The controversial agreement was signed on May 17 but Israel unilaterally imposed the condition

that Syria must also withdraw its forces from Lebanon before it could go into effect. Syria insists there can be no breakthrough in peace efforts unless the agreement is abrogated.

The government sources also said a much heralded Lebanese security plan was discussed in Riyadh.

Implementation of the plan, which calls for the creation of buffer zones between warring Lebanese factions, was delayed after opposition leader Walid Junblatt said he opposed the deployment of the Lebanese army.

He later demanded that his supporters among Druze army officers be included in the government's promotions plan.

Israeli budget measures meet continued opposition

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad met opposition from trade unions and government departments Tuesday as he tried to implement an urgent economic recovery programme.

The Histadrut trade union federation held talks with the embattled minister but announced it would not discuss a treasury proposal to hold down wages and prices.

Treasury officials reported key ministries had still not accepted the government's call to slash spending by nine per cent.

1 injured as Israelis open fire near Sidon mosque

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — One person was wounded Tuesday when Israeli troops opened fire near this coastal town's main mosque and raked a parked car with machine-gun fire in the fifth such incident in four days.

Eyewitnesses said pedestrians ran for cover when Israeli troops fired shots near the Za'atari Mosque, scene of recent protest strikes against Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

The shooting came after Lebanese security sources reported that two shells were fired Monday night at an Israeli unit in the southern Lebanese town of Nabatiye, 23 kilometres south of here.

The Israelis opened fire on a parked car, suspected of containing explosives, wounding its driver. The car caught fire and two other cars were damaged, but the driver escaped.

While the car burned, several small explosions were heard and Israeli soldiers said they were caused by ammunition and bombs inside.

Israeli troops later cut the main road in Sidon, ringed the area and stormed several houses and the offices of the Lebanese Red Cross in search of the wounded driver.

At least 11 people were wounded in a similar incident when Israeli forces fired what local residents estimated were hundreds of thousands of rounds of machine-gun fire at parked cars in the main Riad Al Solh street last Saturday.

Residents in Sidon said the Israelis intensified their foot patrols in Sidon and sent more reinforcements into the city Tuesday.

An Israeli spokesman in Tel Aviv said one Israeli soldier was wounded Monday when his patrol was ambushed at the southern approaches to Sidon.

Warsaw Pact proposes ban on chemical weapons

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday presented NATO with a Warsaw Pact proposal for a ban on chemical weapons on the European continent, but Western diplomats said it broke little new ground.

The proposal, published by the official Soviet news agency TASS, called for a meeting between NATO and Warsaw Pact ambassadors this year to discuss the offer.

The proposal, handed to NATO envoys at the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow Tuesday, said that in the present aggravated international situation "the danger of the use of chemical weapons, first of all in Europe, increases."

It said this threat could be removed by banning weapons and eliminating their stockpiles worldwide, starting with Europe.

But Western diplomats said they were cautious about the new proposal, pointing out it made no clear mention of verification, an issue which has been a stumbling block at many arms control negotiations.

Moscow and Washington have both accused each other of stockpiling chemical weapons.

The proposal said that before a world-wide ban could be achieved "certain parallel steps can and must be undertaken" on the European continent.

"These regional measures, leading to the elimination of whole types of weapons of mass annihilation, would undoubtedly strengthen European security," it said, adding that this would improve the overall political situation.

Hit and run attack kills French soldier in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A French paratrooper was killed and another wounded in a hit-and-run attack on an observation post at French military headquarters in Beirut Monday night.

It was the second such attack in two days on members of the Multinational Force. An American Marine died in a similar hit-and-run attack on Sunday.

On Monday night, gunmen fired a rocket-propelled grenade and automatic weapons at the observation post at the residence of the French ambassador and now main base for the 2,000-strong French contingent.

French military spokesman Colonel Philippe de Longueau said it happened so quickly that the guards had no time to fire back. The paratrooper was the 34th French soldier to die in Lebanon since the Multinational Force began arriving in September 1982.

He was the only casualty reported in the capital in what was otherwise one of the quietest days

Beirut has seen since last August, when anti-government militias began an offensive against the Lebanese army and its right-wing Christian allies.

A truce supposedly came into effect on Sept. 26 but Saudi mediators have spent much of the last three and a half months trying to enforce it.

In the latest round of peace talks, the foreign ministers of Lebanon, Syria and Saudi Arabia met in Riyadh for two days to discuss reconvening the Lebanese reconciliation conference which adjourned in Geneva in November.

Mr. Elie Salem of Lebanon and Mr. Abdul Halim Khaddam of Syria left the Saudi capital Monday without announcing any concrete achievements and it was not immediately clear how much time they had devoted to a new plan

designed to end the fighting.

The plan, which has been on the drawing board for over a month, would create buffer zones between the army and the right-wing "Lebanese Forces" on the one hand and the Druze and Shiite Muslim militias on the other.

Some Beirut politicians had speculated that the ministers would settle a dispute over the deployment of the army on the front between Druze and Christian forces south of Beirut.

In a statement Monday night the "Lebanese Forces" said the anti-government groups were trying to wreck the plan by insisting that it include political demands and cover some Israeli or Syrian-held areas.

Opposition sources say the Druze leader wants the plan to provide for the routine promotion of Druze army officers who deserted during the September fighting.

Mr. Salem and Mr. Khaddam both said the Riyadh talks had been useful. The official Saudi Press Agency said the two ministers would meet again in Morocco later this week.

PSP leader calls for replacement of army with police inside Lebanon

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — A leader of Lebanon's opposition Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) called Monday for Lebanese police to take over security duties in all parts of the country instead of the Lebanese army.

In an interview with Reuters, Idris Shehab, Paris-based vice-president of the main Druze PSP, also said that if a security plan currently being discussed for Lebanon was successful, there would be no need for the American-French-Italian-British peace force there.

Mr. Shehab said his party, led by Walid Junblat, was disputing parts of the security plan to which the Lebanese government has announced agreement in principle.

"There is an agreement, but not on details," he said of the plan. Mr. Shehab, here for a Middle East seminar organised by Florence University, said the PSP objected mainly to a Lebanese army presence in parts of the Kharrub area south of Beirut.

"Of course, it's the internal security forces (police and gendarmes) which must ensure security in all parts of Lebanon," he

said. "The mission of the army is to defend against external aggression and not to ensure internal security."

In Beirut, however, the leftist daily As-Safir said Sunday that the Druze had agreed to army patrols in two more front-line villages.

Lebanon's Druze and Muslim communities believe the national army is Christian dominated but that the Internal Security Forces (ISF) are more neutral.

Mr. Shehab said the ISF, who number less than 10,000 men, were enough to maintain order in Lebanon if there was a security plan and if rightist militia withdrew from their positions in Kharrub.

'U.S. should leave'

He called for U.S. forces to withdraw from Lebanon. "We consider that the American forces are forces of aggression against the Lebanese people, which they are preventing from realising its dream in a modern, democratic regime," he said.

He said there could be a role for the other participants in the

multi-national force. "But if the security plan works there will be no need for the multi-national force. Everybody will withdraw, I think. Mission accomplished."

Mr. Shehab said successful application of the security plan would help pave the way for reconvening the Geneva talks between the warring Lebanese factions.

The Geneva talks adjourned in November to allow President Amin Gemayel to consult U.S. and other world leaders on modifying the May 17 Lebanese-Israeli agreement which provides for continuing Israeli access to South Lebanon after the withdrawal of Israel's invasion force.

"I think Mr. Gemayel didn't study this subject with President Reagan," Mr. Shehab said. "This complicates matters because one cannot accept such an accord which is concluded under Israeli domination or occupation of Lebanon."

Apart from abolition of the May 17 accord, Mr. Shehab said the PSP was seeking agreement on the Arab identity of Lebanon, and reforms which would do away with the built-in Christian majority in the country's political institutions.

Turkey attacks Mitterrand on Armenians

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said Tuesday recent remarks by French President Francois Mitterrand about Armenians encouraged international terrorism and damaged relations between the two countries.

Referring to a speech in which President Mitterrand was quoted as expressing sympathy with Armenians, a foreign ministry spokesman told reporters: "Pre-

sident Mitterrand's remarks have dealt a blow to already impaired Turkish-French relations and the effects of this will be seen in the future."

Turkey has frequently protested that France has implicitly encouraged Armenian guerrilla groups which have killed more than 30 Turks in a decade-long revenge campaign for the mas-

sacre of 1.5 million Armenians in eastern Turkey during World War I.

Turkey denies charges of a massacre. The spokesman said French Ambassador Fernand Rouillon was summoned to see Foreign Minister Vahit Hafeleglu Monday about Mr. Mitterrand's reported remarks.



Lebanese, carrying their goods, pass an Israeli Merkava tank on the Awali bridge separating Israeli occupied South Lebanon from the north. Due to

Israeli restrictions the Lebanese have to make their way across on foot (AP wirephoto)

Israel opens fourth bridge over Awali

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel has opened a fourth bridge over the Awali River in Lebanon, the Israeli army said Tuesday. The new crossing point is north of Sidon, one kilometre east of the old bridge over the river at its mouth on the sea-shore, it announced in a routine press statement.

The new bridge, opened Monday, will be restricted to north-bound traffic while vehicles and pedestrians travelling south will

continue to use the old bridge, where more stringent searches will be carried out.

The other two authorised crossing points for traffic between the Israel-controlled south of Lebanon and the rest of the country are further east, facing the Shouf Mountain area from where Israel pulled out last year.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens told a youth meeting organised by his Herut Party in Tel Aviv Mon-

day night that Israel might withdraw from the Awali Line in Lebanon even if the Beirut government was incapable of honouring an undertaking to prevent terrorist attacks against northern Israel.

Mr. Arens recalled that Israel withdrew from the Shouf Mountain area despite the fact that the Gemayel government was incapable of asserting its sovereignty over the area.

Cyprus president holds talks with Shultz

WASHINGTON (R) — Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou Monday had talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on the Cyprus situation after the November declaration of an independent republic by Turkish Cypriots.

He told reporters he and Shultz reviewed ways of implementing a United Nations resolution calling for reversal of the Turkish Cypriot action. The United States has deplored the move.

with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar earlier Monday, said his talks with Mr. Shultz were "very useful, very constructive."

He added: "We have decided to continue to keep in touch."

Islamic summit takes place with Muslim World in disarray

By Nicholas Moore
Rouen

JEDDAH — The 4th Islamic summit conference opens in Morocco next week with the Muslim World facing external challenge and internal disarray.

Despite repeated peace bids by the Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), which groups 41 Muslim countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the Gulf war that broke out between Iraq and Iran in 1980 rages on unchecked.

Iran has cited Moroccan support for Iraq in saying its revolutionary leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, will not be represented among the Muslim kings, emirs and presidents who will attend the three-day summit in Casablanca from Jan. 16.

Israel remains in occupation of Arab territory including Jerusalem, among the most sacred sites of Islam, and Muslim fighters in Afghanistan still confront a powerful Soviet army.

The Muslim leaders must also consider a rift within the PLO over the leadership of Mr. Yasser Arafat.

And at a preparatory meeting of Islamic foreign ministers in Dhaka last month, the PLO raised a new controversial issue by defying radical Arabs and calling for Egypt's readmission to the OIC. A meeting of the foreign ministers begins in Casablanca on Thursday, ahead of the summit proper.

Egypt was suspended from the OIC in 1979 after signing its U.S.-sponsored peace treaty with Israel. After the Dhaka talks, Mr. Arafat made a conciliatory visit to Cairo and conferred there with President Hosni Mubarak on Dec. 22.

Mr. Arafat argues that neither the Arabs nor the Islamic World in general can flourish without Egypt and its nearly 47 million people, most of them Muslims.

They expect Arab moderates to seek an Arab realignment including front-line states Jordan and Lebanon and eventually Egypt, backed by Saudi Arabia and Iraq, to restart Middle East peace moves with the PLO closely associated.

The Islamic leaders might consider changes to the Arab League's 1942 Fez peace plan for an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, matching possible changes in President Reagan's peace proposals of the same year.

Mr. Mubarak and other leaders have warned that time is running out for a negotiated Middle East solution, as the United States gears up for a presidential election and Israel continues to plot Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

Sources in Cairo believe moderates at the Casablanca meeting might press for Egypt's readmission to the OIC, as suggested by the PLO. Jordan is confident there will be wholehearted denunciation of

Spain's opposition favours diplomatic ties with Israel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Spain's opposition Popular Alliance Party favours establishing diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel immediately. Party Leader Manuel Fraga told Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday, Israeli officials said.

Mr. Fraga, here on an official visit, told Mr. Shamir his party would work to put relations between the two countries on a formal basis.

Spain has never had official ties with Israel but relations between them improved recently with the establishment of a direct Madrid-Tel Aviv air link.

Israeli officials are anxious that Spain should have official relations with Israel before entering the European Community. They fear that Spanish agricultural products could push Israeli fruits and vegetables out of European markets after Spain enters the community.

Turkey to stay away from Council of Europe meeting

ARRACIFE, Spain (R) — The Council of Europe's political commission has recommended that Turkey should not be admitted to the Council's Jan. 31 meeting in Strasbourg, delegates said Tuesday.

The commission, preparing the agenda for the meeting at a two-day session here, Monday approved a motion by Austrian delegate Ludwig Steiner recommending that a decision on

Turkish representation should be postponed until after municipal elections scheduled for May, they said.

The motion also recommended sending a council mission to monitor the poll, they added.

Turkey sought to take part in the council's meetings after elections called last year by Ankara's military rulers which were dismissed by opposition politicians as fraudulent.

Iranian press attacks Morocco over summit

TEHRAN (R) — The Iranian Press Tuesday stepped up a series of attacks on King Hassan of Morocco following Iran's decision to boycott the forthcoming Islamic conference in Casablanca.

The daily Kayhan Tuesday described the meeting as "the assembly of a few infamous kings and emirs" and said it was doomed to failure.

Iran's revolutionary rulers also disapprove of Morocco as a site for the meeting because King Hassan gave refuge to the former Shah, has close political and mil-

itary links with the United States.

An Iranian Foreign Ministry official, Javad Mansuri, told a press conference on his return from Bangladesh and Pakistan Monday that Iran would not accept any "unilateral decisions" the Casablanca conference might take.

The daily Islamic Republic, which is close to the views of President Ali Khamenei, said last weekend that Morocco was "a secure den for the U.S. and a bridge for penetration of the United States into the Islamic World."

West Bank Jewish settlements and backing for its call for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands.

Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan wants the conference to condemn "arbitrary measures" against the citizens of Israeli-occupied South Lebanon.

Officials in Baghdad look in the OIC to resolve Iraq's war with Iran, recalling that the Iraqi government has said it is ready to implement any OIC resolution on ending the conflict.

The six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — are expected to take a coordinated approach at the summit. The Palestinian question, an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory and an end to the Gulf war are high on their list of priorities.

The four Asian members of the OIC — Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan and Malaysia — view the Gulf war as the pressing challenge.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Koran
17:40 Cartoons
18:05 Children's Programmes
18:25 Sherlock Holmes
19:20 Programme Review
19:30 Programme on Agriculture
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Local Programme
22:10 Local Programme
23:10 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

19:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Home Calls
21:00 Science International
21:10 Really — Eps. 2
22:00 News in English
22:15 Strike Force

RADIO JORDAN

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show
10:00 Pope Session
10:30 News Summary
11:00 News Bulletin
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BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1413 KHz.

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VOICE OF AMERICA

1280, 1290, 5720, 5655, 11740, 17425, 5, 15210 KHz.
06:00 VOA Morning News on the radio: news summaries, daily business report, science and medicine, sports reports, VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups, analysis, viewpoints, features 17:00 News 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* The first Arab and international book exhibition at the University of Jordan Library.
* Painting exhibition by Ujemia Raj at the Royal Cultural Centre from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
* An exhibition at French Cultural Centre from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

VIDEO

* Video programme at French Cultural Centre at 4:30 p.m.

FILM

* Film at French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel: 66120/7
American Centre - 44371
British Council - 36147-8
French Cultural Centre - 37049
Grethe Institute - 31993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre - 24149
Turkish Cultural Centre - 39777
Haya Ara Centre - 665195
Hussein Youth City - 667181
Y.W.C.A. - 41703
Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251
Amman Municipal Library - 36111
University of Jordan Library - 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash 14th to 18th centuries. The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 51766
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the ancient Jordan. Tel: 661757
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, 37440
St. Simeon Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, 661757
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331

PRAYER TIMES

08:14 Sunrise
11:04 Dhuhr
14:31 Asr
15:50 Maghreb
18:13 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. 33250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:00 Cairo (EAI)
07:15 Karachi (PIA)
09:05 Aqaba (RJ)
09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:45 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
09:55 Cairo (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
11:05 Muscat, Bahrain (KLM)
14:05 Cairo (EAI)
14:40 Kuwait (KAC)
14:50 Bucharest (Taron)
15:00 Jeddah (Saudiya)
15:30 Baghdad (IAI)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
16:30 Bangkok (RJ)
17:00 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IAI)
17:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:50 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
18:10 Paris, Damascus (AFI)
18:30 Beirut (MEA)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:05 Cairo (EAI)
20:05 Agaba (RJ)
20:55 Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)
20:55 Zurich, Athens, Damascus (ISR)
00:30 Cairo (RJ)
00:45 Baghdad (IAI)
01:05 Cairo (EAI)

DEPARTURES

05:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:25 Larnaca, Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
08:30 Athens (IOA)
09:30 Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PIA)
09:05 Beirut (MEA)
10:55 Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30 Amsterdam (KLM)
12:00 London (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (EAI)
15:05 Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)
15:40 Kuwait (Taron)
15:50 Larnaca, Bucharest (Taron)
16:30 Jeddah (Saudiya)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in JLD

Belgian franc 64.9
Dutch guilder 117.9
Egyptian pound 329
French franc 43.5
Iraqi dinar 370
Italian lire (for 100) 21.9
Japanese yen (for 100) 160.8
Kuwaiti dinar 1276
Lebanese lira 67
Omani rial 1081
Qatari riyal 109
Saudi riyal 107
Swedish crown 45.5
Swiss franc 166.2
Syrian lira 50
U.S. dollar 102
U.K. sterling pound 52.6
U.S. dollar 376
W. German mark 132.3

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with westerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg.C.

Amman 31.3
Aqaba 29.0
Desert 21.7
Jordan Valley 19.9
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 71 per cent, Aqaba 40 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, fire police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 22190-3
Police headquarters 39141
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Traffic police 56391-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport 1081 53333

HOSPITALS

Husseini Hospital 81381-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Mathias, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Amman 667158
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667221-9
The Islamic Hospital 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajirin 771111-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marka 91611

IRIB

Dr. Adnan Al Naser 2418
Foad pharmacy 75361

ZARQA:

Dr. Khalil Abu Hussein 55181
Tareq pharmacy 1-1

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 66412
Price complaints 661176

NIGHT DUTY

Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 150/120
Cable or telegram 17
Repair service 11

Jordan to get \$30m loan to develop power sector

WASHINGTON (Petra) — The World Bank is to grant Jordan a \$30 million loan to finance development projects, according to an agreement signed here Monday.

A spokesman for the National Planning Council said that the money will be used to help finance a number of schemes being undertaken by the Jordanian Electric Power Company, the Irbid District Electricity Company and the

Natural Resources Authority (NRA) to expand the existing power networks so as to include 75 additional villages in the Amman, Balqa and Irbid Governorates.

The loan, he said, is also needed to help promote a comprehensive programme for energy conservation, to research into alternative energy sources especially solar power and to establish an information centre serving these

purposes.

The loan agreement will also include support for Jordan's oil prospecting programmes, and the drawing up of plans for industrial projects that will support national development schemes, the spokesman said.

The agreement was signed by Jordan's ambassador to the U.S. Ibrahim Izzeddin and a number of World Bank executive members.

Committee urges study on pollution in Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — The Aqaba Conservation Committee has recommended the carrying out of a study of the southern beach there with a view to establishing a marine conservation area to protect underwater life.

It also recommended that contact should be made with the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company to limit the pumping of waste in to the sea.

During its meeting, which was held Monday under the chair-

manship of Anis Al Mu'asher who is also the president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, the committee also discussed a number of subjects related to the protection of the environment from land and air pollution. In particular it focused on the dangers of phosphate dust and urged the concerned authorities to investigate this subject.

The possibility of setting up gardens in the city and the committee's past achievements were also discussed.

Keilani to head new water authority

AMMAN (Petra) — A royal decree has been issued appointing Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani as president of the newly established Water Authority as from January 15.

The new authority, which was established by a royal decree will group the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority and the Water Supply Corporation together as from the same date.

Chinese congress team reasserts backing for rights of Arabs

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting delegation from the Chinese National People's Congress led by the vice-chairman of the congress's Standing Committee Tuesday voiced their country's support for Arab rights while expressing an understanding of the Palestine problem.

The delegation speaker, Wang Ren Zhong, spoke on behalf of his delegation at a meeting with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Tarawneh.

Mr. Zhong also praised the wise leadership of his Majesty King

Hussein and the achievements attained by Jordan's economic progress.

During the meeting, the speaker reviewed with his Chinese guests developments in the Middle East and on the occupied West Bank, as well as Sino-Jordanian relations.

Later the delegation was received by Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh with whom they reviewed the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue.

Mr. Abu Odeh spoke about Israel's expansionist plans, its settlement policies and its drive to evict the indigenous population from their homeland.

The minister blamed the failure of all international initiatives to establish peace in the region on

Israel's intransigent stand. Mr. Abu Odeh also voiced Jordan's criticism of nations which provide Israel with the support and help "that enables the Zionist state to pursue its policies."

For his part, Mr. Zhong voiced China's satisfaction with Sino-Jordanian relations and spoke about the Middle East issue and efforts aimed at establishing a just and durable settlement which he said must "ensure the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

"China supports the Fz Arab summit resolutions, Arab solidarity and the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland," Mr. Zhong said.

He also voiced China's hope for a speedy end to the Iraq-Iran war. The meeting was also attended by Senate member Hazem Nuseibeh.

Italian businessmen to discuss partnerships during visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation of Italian businessmen will arrive here on Jan. 21 on a several-day visit to Jordan during which they will hold talks with Jordanian officials and meet local businessmen, according to a story in the Jordanian daily Al-Dustour.

The delegation, in its meetings with Jordanian businessmen, especially those in the private sector, will discuss the possibility of setting up joint projects with comprising Jordanian financing and Italian expertise and equipment, a spokesman for the Amman Chamber of Industry said.

The spokesman added that a programme has been arranged for the Italian delegation to visit a number of Jordanian factories and economic institutions.

Insecticide control lab. opened

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Agriculture Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawzi Tuesday inaugurated a laboratory for controlling the side-effects of insecticides on vegetables, fruit and people.

This project's implementation comes as part of an agreement between Jordan and the Federal Republic of Germany whereby the latter will provide technical assistance to Jordan.

The director of the laboratory said the new facility is vital to the Jordanian which relies heavily on vegetable exporters.

"We have to know the effects of insecticides on agricultural products in order to be able to export them free of poisonous side-effects,"

The agriculture ministry constructed the laboratory buildings while technical assistance, the training of personnel and equipment were provided by the German Technical Assistance Agency.

U.S. delegation ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A U.S. congressional delegation Tuesday left Amman at the end of its visit to Jordan which lasted several days. During the visit, the delegation members were received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and met Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and other senior officials. The delegation members were seen off at the airport by senior foreign ministry officials.

National Planning Council report highlights industrial growth trends

AMMAN (Petra) — A study into the industrial situation in Jordan, published by the National Planning Council (NPC), has shed light on the development of various industries related to agriculture, trade and other services in the country.

The study, which was prepared and compiled by engineers Sami Nsour, Odeh Sweis and Mahmoud Al Shiyab, indicates that real interest in industry began to take shape in the early 1950s when the Jordanian government took the initiative in implementing industrial and mining projects.

The government defined the projects it wanted to carry out and issued a law in 1955 which was designed to guide and encourage industry while also encouraging foreign capital investment.

Soon afterwards the department of statistics was established and Industrial Development Bank opened to help the process.

Central planning

In the 1963-67 five year development plan a total of JD 22.8 million were spent on developing industry and mining in Jordan.

In the 1964-70 seven year development plan, 17 per cent of total expenditure went on industry and mining, while in the 1976-80 five-year development plan the

rate rose to 30 per cent. In the previous five-year plan, government concern focused on developing mineral resources like phosphates and potash, and exploiting their chemical bi-products like bromide, magnesium fluoride, aluminium and others for the purpose of developing the existing industries in the country.

The government's attention was also focused on developing industries that are linked to agriculture, tourism and construction.

Industry and mining in the current five-year plan aims at increasing revenues from industry, and, as a result, the national income should rise from JD 154 million in 1980 to JD 350 million in 1985; an annual growth rate of 17.8 per cent.

Plans are again set to develop the production of phosphates and potash and their bi-products, and to promote industries pertaining to agriculture, tourism and construction.

The projects envisaged seek to attract Arab capital and to employ modern technology with the purpose of helping to achieve Arab industrial integration.

Mining

Investment in mining bore fruit in 1952 when the country exported quantities of phosphates

that earned it JD 30,000. Industrial products then sold earned it JD 10,000. However, phosphate exports had increased by nearly ten fold by 1962.

Later, more efforts were made to raise phosphate production so as to earn the revenues needed to develop other sectors. The 1967 war dealt a devastating blow to Jordan's economic and social structures and this was accompanied by a serious drop in industrial production.

Later, however, Jordan increased its phosphate exports considerably and at the same time pursued programmes for developing industry.

Local production

Industry in Jordan concentrated mostly on commodities that were urgently need by the local market. The government offered protection to locally produced commodities and by degrees the country began to move towards its goal of self-sufficiency in a number of consumer products.

According to the study, Jordan's industry still lacks firm and solid policies and most industries are limited in scope thus not being fully developed.

It concluded by saying that for Jordanian products to be sold abroad, a well-planned marketing programme must be introduced.

Profile of the new government



Ahmad Obeidat

Born at the village of Hartha in Irbid Governorate in 1938, Mr. Ahmad Obeidat completed his secondary education at Al Salih School in Nablus in 1956 and obtained his bachelor degree in law from Baghdad University in 1961. Mr. Obeidat worked as a teacher for the Ministry of Education, and served the Customs Department in 1961.

Between 1961 and 1964 he served as second lieutenant at the

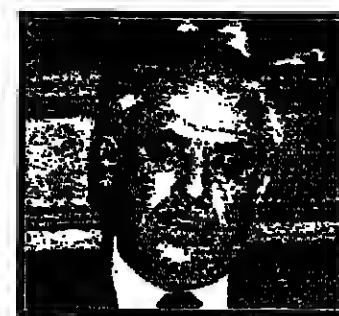
Public Security Department in Amman before being appointed director of the General Intelligence Department. He was promoted to the rank of major general and then lieutenant general and appointed director general of intelligence in 1974 before becoming interior minister, a post he held until he was designated to form the new government.

Mr. Obeidat is married and has three daughters and two sons.



Suleiman Arar

Born in Ma'an in 1934, Mr. Suleiman Arar obtained a law degree from Egypt in 1961. Mr. Arar served as an attaché in the Jordanian embassy in Jeddah during 1961-1967, attaché at the embassy in Algiers during 1967-1970. Arab National Union Director during 1972-1976, director general and editor of Al Ra'i newspaper during 1972-1976, minister of interior in 1976, minister of interior again during 1976-1979, minister of state for Prime Ministry affairs in 1979, minister of interior in 1980 and became speaker of the National Consultative Council in 1982.



Ahmad Tarawneh

Born in Mazar, Karak in 1931, Mr. Ahmad Abdul Karim Al Tarawneh completed his secondary education in Jordan before going to Iraq where he graduated with a law degree in 1954. Mr. Tarawneh held the following posts: chief clerk at the prosecutor's office in 1954, attorney general in Irbid and Hebron in 1955, Court judge in Hebron in 1956, attorney general during 1956-1957, district court judge in Amman during 1957-1959, minister of interior in 1973, chief of the General Audit Department in 1976, minister of justice during 1976-1979, and again became minister of justice in 1980 in Mr. Badran's cabinet.



Taher Al Masri

Mr. Taher Nasha'at Al Masri hails from Nablus where he was born in 1942. He graduated in commerce from Texas University.

The positions he has held to date include assistant head in the Banking Department at the Central Bank of Jordan and minister of state for occupied territories affairs. He is also a member of the Lower House of Parliament.



Mohammad Al Zaben

Born in Salt, Jordan, in 1927, Mr. Hikmat Al Saket obtained his bachelor degree in Mathematics in 1951. Mr. Saket started his career as teacher in 1954, became a school headmaster in 1959, educational supervisor in 1962, director of education Amman Governorate in 1963, Ministry of Education under-secretary in 1978, director of Civil Service Commission in 1979, Minister of Agriculture in 1979, and minister of state for Prime Ministry affairs in 1980.



Ibrahim Ayyoub

Born in Husn, northern Jordan, in 1926, Mr. Ibrahim Ayyoub completed his school education in Jordan in 1943. He later acquired a diploma in telecommunications from the United Kingdom in 1954, and an armed forces staff academy diploma from the U.S. in 1961. He held senior positions at the Army Headquarters between 1943 and 1961, served as military attaché at the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad during 1961-1963, chief of military intelligence during 1965-1967, commander of the Royal Wireless Corps during 1967-1973, adviser at the Royal Court during 1973-1974, and army chief of staff, assistant for administration during 1976.

Mr. Ayyoub became director of the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company in 1980, and minister of supply in 1980, a post he held in Mr. Badran's cabinet. Mr. Ayyoub holds several Jordanian and foreign medals.



Hikmat Al Saket

Born in Salt, Jordan, in 1927, Mr. Hikmat Al Saket obtained his bachelor degree in Mathematics in 1951. Mr. Saket started his career as teacher in 1954, became a school headmaster in 1959, educational supervisor in 1962, director of education Amman Governorate in 1963, Ministry of Education under-secretary in 1978, director of Civil Service Commission in 1979, Minister of Agriculture in 1979, and minister of state for Prime Ministry affairs in 1980.



Jawad Al Anani

Born in Halhul, Hebron in 1943, Dr. Jawad Al Anani completed his school education in Amman in 1961, and later obtained his bachelor degree from the American University of Cairo in 1967, masters degree in economics from the U.S. in 1970 and doctorate from Georgia University in 1975. Dr. Anani served the department of research and studies at the Central Bank of Jordan during 1967-1968, and later held several senior posts at the bank ending in 1977 when he became ministry of labour under-secretary. In 1975, he became minister of supplies, in 1980 minister of labour in Mr. Badran's cabinet.



Taher Hikmat

Having gained a B.A. in law, Mr. Taher Hikmat worked as a lawyer. He has been a member of all three terms of the National Consultative Council and is a former minister of culture and youth.



Hanna Odeh

Born in Haifa in 1932, Dr. Hanna Odeh was educated in Beirut. He holds a diploma in statistics from Beirut and another in economic planning in 1957 from the Hague, a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Rotterdam in 1963, and later obtained a doctorate degree in statistics and economics. He worked at the UNRWA headquarters in Beirut in the statistics department, served as assistant researcher in social studies in the Hague, director of planning at the National Planning Council (NPC) in 1963-1964, NPC's secretary general in 1968 and was appointed NPC president in 1974.



Laila Sharaf

Mrs. Laila Sharaf was born in Lebanon and obtained both her B.A. and M.A. degrees at the American University of Beirut (AUB). After this she worked as a television broadcaster before heading the AUB Alumni Club in North America.

She is vice-president of the Royal Society for the Preservation of Nature and a member of its Executive Committee. Mrs. Sharaf is also honorary president of the Cerebral Palsy Welfare Organisation which she helped to establish.



Abdul Salam Kana'an

Born in Anabta, near Nablus, Mr. Abdul Salam Kana'an obtained a diploma in educational organisation from Oxford University, and a masters degree in education from Indiana University in the U.S.

He worked as a teacher and educational supervisor and later served as director of education for UNRWA during 1974-1981. He served for a time as member of the National Consultative Council, the Educational Department at the Royal Scientific Society and later became member of the World Affairs Council.



Rayef Nijm

Mr. Ra'if Nijm is currently working as a professor at Yarmouk University in Irbid.



Tayseer Abdul Jaber

Born in Jerusalem in 1940, Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jaber obtained his doctorate in economics at the University of Southern California in 1969. In 1970, he became director of research at the Central Bank of Jordan and director of the Economics Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1973.

He was regional adviser in development planning, ECWA, at the United Nations in 1975 and secretary-general of the National Planning Council in 1977 which he left to take over as under-secretary at the Ministry of Labour two years later.



Hamdallah Nabulsi

Mr. Hamdallah Al Nabulsi was born in Salt in 1927 and graduated in civil engineering from Cairo University in 1954. He later went on a training course in the U.S. in 1963 on material research.

He then worked as director of public works departments in Ma'an, Amman, Jerusalem and Nablus and was head of the materials division at the Ministry of Public Works. Between 1965 and 1971 he was director of buildings in the same ministry before taking up his present post of director-general of the Housing Corporation.



Abdullah Oweidat

Dr. Abdullah Oweidat did research in education and, after receiving his Ph.D., worked as a teacher. He is presently a lecturer in the Faculty of Education at the University of Jordan.



Kamel Ajlouni

Trained as a physician, Dr. Kamel Al Ajlouni worked in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan. He is also a director of the University of Jordan Hospital.



Abed Khalaf Daoudieh

Mr. Abed Khalaf Daoudieh is currently the governor of the Irbid Governorate having previously held the post of under-secretary in the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.



Mohammad Bashir

Dr. Mohammad Al Bashir worked in the field of education for his doctoral thesis. He is a former head of military intelligence and is a director of the retired army officers organisation.



Shawkat Mahmoud

Mr. Shawkat Mahmoud is a former officer at the General Intelligence Department. He was under-secretary at the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs during the last cabinet.

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Nick Cuthbertson
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Welcome to new cabinet

BEFORE welcoming the new government of Mr. Ahmad Oheidat, a word of thanks and appreciation must go to the Badran cabinet which has carried its heavy responsibilities with dedicated work, handled its tasks with care and honesty and run the country's affairs with efficiency and admirable selflessness. In spite of often unvoiced and unwritten disagreements with the outgoing government over technicalities and other matters here and there, Mr. Mudar Badran and his ministers cannot be denied the praise for a job well done in many aspects and over a number of crucial years in our history. But suffice it to say that the Kingdom's history will remember Mr. Badran and his colleagues with their solid achievements rather than with honed words and speeches. Their incessant and hard work in the service of their King and country is still all too evident to recount and numerate.

This is not to say, however, that the country being where it is now, the change in government yesterday was unwarranted or not needed. It is, and for a number of good reasons.

With the reconstitution of the Lower House of Parliament a few days ago, Jordan needs to inject new blood and reinvigorate its political institutions. This is essentially necessary and doubly important now that we have entered a new political stage which requires from us even harder work and fresh efforts and thus prepare ourselves better for the future and the coming stages. The region is only a step far from crucial political developments that deem it necessary for us to be ready and moving — in essence requiring us to be prepared for both old and new challenges.

On the local front, much is to be done about strengthening the economy and the Armed Forces, about cementing social structures and building our national and political institutions.

Happily, Jordan's has been a success story. Our people has worked hard and efficiently and has been able to see this country among the more advanced, the more open and productive among the world's developing countries, despite the heavy pressures and odds during the difficult years that have gone by. Jordanians want to see this trend continue and develop, and the new government, any government of ours really, will always be called upon to see the process of development through, with open minds and continuous efforts.

There is most probably a host of issues that the public wants to debate with our new government, but the occasion today calls for more reflection than judgement on these issues, for soon enough, we all will have to go it together.

Here, we simply want to wish Prime Minister Oheidat and his colleagues luck in their new task, being at the same time confident that they deserve our full trust and sincere support.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Purely internal affair

PRIME MINISTER Mudar Badran emphasised in his statement to reporters Monday that the reconstitution of parliamentary life in Jordan was a purely internal affair. He said that the return to democratic life was something connected with the constitution and is of concern to the people of this country and them alone. With this, Mr. Badran wanted to forestall any interpretation of Jordan's move by the country's enemies. This country is closely linked with the Palestinian cause he said and there must be no misinterpretation of the Jordanian move.

The reconvening of parliament was demanded by the people of this country and the presence of the National Consultative Council since 1978 has meant that Jordan was committed to a return to parliamentary life one day. Parliament was also needed to approve an amendment to the constitution which would facilitate constitutional life in the future. Though the country has been without parliamentary life over the past decade, its people are determined to exercise their democratic right and are also firmly committed to the Palestinian cause.

Al Dstour: Partner in government

PARLIAMENT, WHICH return to its normal functions Monday, will from now on serve as a partner in shouldering the executive authority in dealing with domestic and external affairs. A return to parliamentary life presents the country as being at one with democratic rule, functioning under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

In his statement to reporters, Prime Minister Mudar Badran stressed that a parliament is the right of the people, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and therefore its restoration is to be considered as a purely internal affair. A return to parliamentary life should by no means be seen as cancelling Jordan's ties with the Palestine Liberation Organisation. On the contrary it should, if anything, bolster these ties and bring back self-confidence to the people of the two banks of the River Jordan. Parliamentary life should be viewed by all as a manifestation of democracy with which this country has been characterised since its establishment early this century.

Sawt Al Shaab: A welcome return

THE RECONVENING of Jordan's parliament in Amman Monday re-emphasises a well-established fact, namely that of the sacred unity of the people on both banks of the River Jordan. Also the prime minister's statement, in which he stressed that the meeting of parliament is a purely internal affair concerning Jordanians alone, clarifies Jordan's position vis-a-vis the future and its ties with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

It should be emphasised further that parliament, which grouped representatives of the people in the occupied West Bank and the East Bank, is another manifestation of the national unity of this country. Jordan will continue to honour its commitments towards the PLO, and its ties with the population under Israeli rule will further be strengthened under the provisions of the constitution and in a country which has restored parliamentary life and constitutional rule. We welcome the return of the deputies from the West Bank and we hope that the reconvening of Parliament will open a new high chapter for the country.

Romania blames both superpowers for stalemate

By Richard Balmforth
Reuter

BUCHAREST. Romania's President, Nicolae Ceausescu has signalled his intention of maintaining a lone, nagging voice of dissent within the Soviet camp over Moscow's nuclear missile policy.

In the flurry of appeals and statements marking the turn of the year, the Romanian president continued to strike a discordant note among his Communist allies by insisting both superpowers were equally to blame for the stalemate in arms talks.

On New Year's eve, Mr. Ceausescu joined Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu in appealing personally to President Reagan and Soviet Leader Yuri Andropov to suspend missile deployment in Europe and resume the Geneva arms control talks.

In other statements and interviews, he said Washington should stop installing cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe, while Moscow should call off counter-deployment plans for Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

Elsewhere in the Soviet bloc, where all blame for the stalemate

is pinned on Washington and Moscow is praised for its firm approach, this is close to heresy.

But Western diplomats caution against the interpretation that the Romanian view could lead to a serious split in the Warsaw Pact over the Moscow line on missiles.

They question the motivation of Mr. Ceausescu's distinctive tack, the extent to which it really shows independence of Moscow's stand and whether, in the end, Romania has the power to influence Soviet thinking.

Some analysts say the 65-year-old Romanian leader clearly believes the Soviet Union must give some ground if there is to be a resumption of the medium-range missile talks in Geneva, which were suspended by Moscow in November following the arrival of new U.S. missiles in Europe.

Others say that though Mr. Ceausescu constantly warns of an impending holocaust, he chooses his words carefully when dealing with specific elements of the debate. His remarks can be interpreted favourably by either Washington or Moscow, they say.

He has, for instance, indicated in the past that he favoured something akin to President Reagan's original "Zero Option" proposals

for medium-range missiles in Europe, which called for both sides to renounce such weapons.

On the other hand, he condemns the siting of new U.S. weapons in Western Europe while refraining from mentioning Moscow's SS-20 build-up.

He also apparently backs Moscow's call for the French and British deterrents to be included in any medium-range missile equation, a view rejected by both Paris and London.

Western diplomats say the question of nuclear missiles is a personal obsession with Mr. Ceausescu.

One said in Bucharest recently after meeting the president: "You simply cannot discuss nuclear missiles as an issue with him. As far as he is concerned, they are the very devil."

Others say his preoccupation with missiles is in line with his passion for independent foreign policy initiatives which seem disproportionate, given this Balkan country's size, its severe economic problems and low living standards.

Many diplomats see the pursuit of a high international profile as a deliberate tactic by the Romanian leader to divert attention from his

rigid line at home which has been criticised frequently by human rights agencies.

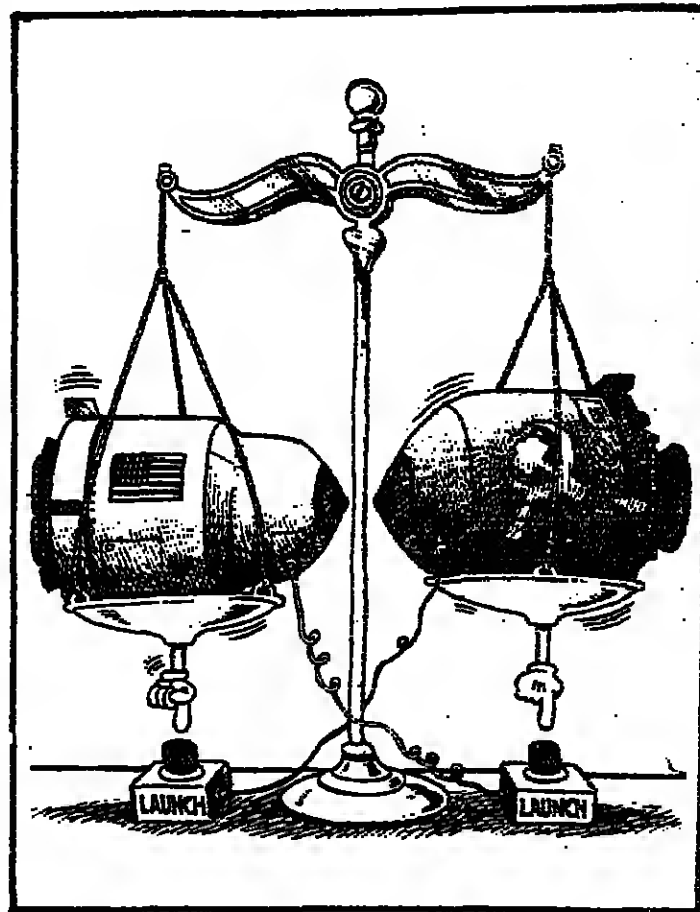
One diplomat commented recently: "He (Mr. Ceausescu) has made the missile debate the number one priority. But the irony is that if anybody stepped out on the street to make anything like a spontaneous demonstration on nuclear missiles, they'd be stamped on straightaway."

Diplomats also believe that Romania's non-conformist role within the Eastern bloc, it does not allow military exercises on its territory or send troops in such manoeuvres, may have long since lost it any influence on Warsaw Pact strategy.

One way Romania may choose to apply leverage is through pushing hard a proposal for a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans which has been espoused by Romania's neighbours, including Bulgaria.

The idea, first proposed by Romania in 1957, is dismissed by Western military attaches as an irrelevance given the realities of the nuclear age.

But diplomats say it could have some importance as a lever to influence Bulgaria's traditional ties with Moscow.



Pretoria ravages southern Angola

By Neil Lewis
Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — The recent flurry of diplomatic activity between Angola and South Africa, including an exchange of cease-fire offers, offers little likelihood of ending the present fighting, according to analysts and diplomats.

South African forces are thrusting deep into southern Angola in what defence force spokesman claim to be an operation meant to frustrate an annual rainy season offensive by black nationalist guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

At the start of the South African offensive, Pretoria offered a 30-day military disengagement to Angola, Luanda and SWAPO rejected it because of conditions attached to it.

Last week, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos retaliated on the diplomatic front with an offer to a truce which the South Africans turned down.

Although diplomats and analysts said it was encouraging that both sides discussed the idea of a military stand-down, the conditions attached to the offers show how little the two governments are willing to compromise.

Pretoria said it would agree to a "disengagement" if Angola saw to it that SWAPO did not "infiltrate" Namibia. SWAPO has been fighting a 17-year-long bush war with South Africa to win independence for the territory which Pretoria governs in defiance of the United Nations.

Any decision to end the fighting without independence would be tantamount to a defeat for SWAPO.

Luanda said it would agree to a "truce" if South Africa promised to begin the U.N.-prescribed independence process.

Since it is widely assumed SWAPO would win the elections provided for in the process, such an agreement would be tantamount to a defeat for South Africa.

"The offers of a military truce are mainly restatements of existing positions," Michael Spicer of Johannesburg's Institute of International Affairs said in an interview.

"Still it is wrong to see no movement whatever. It shows both sides do not want things to get out of hand and are eager for peace, if on their own terms."

Diplomats said they feared things could get out of hand during Pretoria's strike 200 kilometres into Luanda.

The Luanda government and army is reinforced by an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops who are used to help combat the anti-government rebels of UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola), a South African ally.

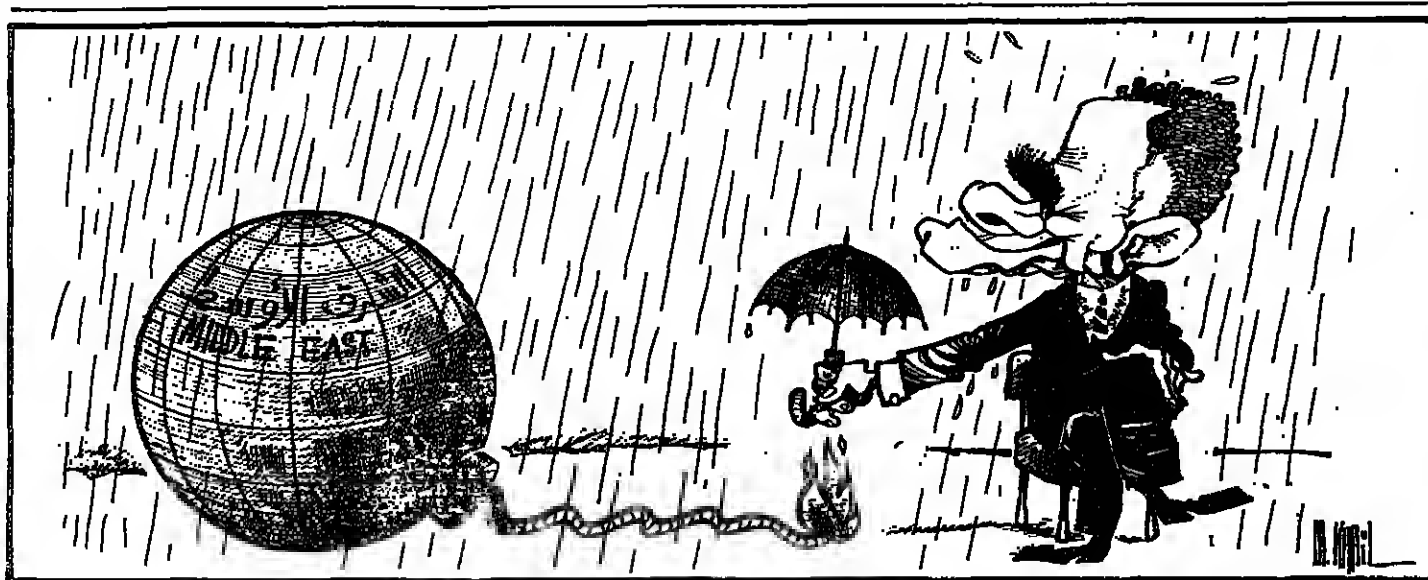
South African troops have already engaged Angolan government forces during their offensive against SWAPO.

Any major confrontation between Cuban and South African forces could bring a sharp escalation in the conflict which might prove difficult to contain.

Pretoria, fully backed by the United States, says it is only willing to allow an independence settlement in Namibia if Luanda agrees to send home the Cuban forces.

Privately, senior South African officials have said that even in the unlikely event the Cubans departed, Pretoria would not want to leave Namibia.

One senior official said South Africa would not leave Namibia until it could be assured of a stable and friendly government on its border. He said a SWAPO government would almost certainly be hostile and unstable.



Factional-alliance shift expected in Nakasone's LDP convention

By Eliot Taylor
Reuter

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has resumed fragile unity to his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) after its election setback last month and secured his future for the time being, but he still faces a long-term threat.

The crucial test for his premiership is not until November, when his two-year term as LDP president ends. But many political analysts believe the pattern of factional alliances could shift within the party and that he may be dumped.

In the meantime, he has to confront a series of difficult domestic and foreign policy problems.

Mr. Nakasone won the party leadership, and with it the prime minister's job, just over a year ago, when his supporters combined with the dominant LDP faction led by Ex-Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and the followers of another former prime minister, Zenko Suzuki.

However, analysts say the Suzuki camp could decide to put up its own candidate for the leadership and Mr. Nakasone's group, still the largest of the five main LDP factions, may also challenge Mr. Nakasone.

Expected defeat

Rei Shiratori, the director of the Japan Institute for Political Studies, says: "There is no chance of Nakasone winning [in November]. I think he realises that. But the art of politics is converting the impossible into the possible."

The past decade has been a rapid turnover of prime ministers in Japan. None of Mr. Nakasone's five immediate predecessors has survived more than one term as

party leader. Most fell victim to changing alliances within the LDP.

Analysts believe that in November the Suzuki faction could put up Kichiji Miyazawa, a former foreign minister and one of Mr. Nakasone's main rivals, as a challenger for the premiership.

They say Mr. Nakasone resisted pressure from Mr. Suzuki to name Mr. Miyazawa as LDP secretary-general. The job went to another Suzuki man, Rensuke Tanaka, instead.

The post is considered an important stepping-stone to the party presidency because it carries control over party finances, the selection of election candidates and other internal matters.

The Tanaka faction lost the post of secretary-general, but won six portfolios, the largest share in the new 21-man cabinet. The LDP lost 36 seats in the December election, leaving it with only 251 of 511 seats in the House of Representatives.

But Mr. Nakasone won a comfortable majority by allying with a small conservative splinter group and recruiting independents.

He managed to maintain his position by promising party critics he would reduce Mr. Tanaka's influence. Mr. Tanaka's conviction last October for his part in the Lockheed bribery scandal precipitated the election.

Unaffected by scandal

Mr. Tanaka, free on his conviction appeal against his conviction and a four-year jail sentence, won an easy re-election to the house, where he sits as an independent. His faction also lost fewer seats in the poll than any other LDP group.

But analysts say that despite its large share of the cabinet, the

Tanaka faction lost the important posts of chief cabinet secretary, LDP secretary-general and the construction ministry portfolio.

The Tanaka group had monopolised the construction portfolio for many years. It gave Mr. Tanaka a base from which to swing vote-winning public works projects for the faction's constituents.

"He (Mr. Nakasone) did not completely free himself from Mr. Tanaka's shadow, but he did succeed in putting himself at a greater distance from the convicted former premier," commented the English-language Japan Times in an editorial.

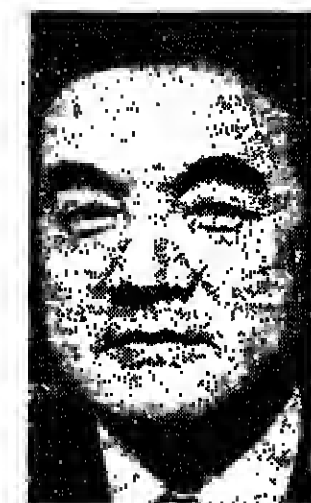
While the leadership issue looms in the long term, Mr. Nakasone has to confront the immediate tasks of restoring momentum to foreign policy and tackling the government's serious budgetary problems.

Immediate tasks

He said at a press conference recently that he wanted to maintain international credibility by pursuing an unchanged foreign policy. His previous administration linked Japan with Western policy towards the Soviet Union and stressed stronger ties with the United States.

This month Mr. Nakasone will send Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe to Washington for talks on bilateral trade problems and international issues. He said the trip was designed to prevent U.S. "misunderstanding" following the LDP's electoral setback.

Mr. Nakasone is due to visit China for the first time in March. According to foreign ministry officials, he may also visit several Western European capitals in June, after attending the seven-nation summit of industrial dem-



Yasuhiro Nakasone

ocracies" in London.

Japan's relations with the European Community have been strained by trade problems.

In his first year, after pressure from both Washington and Brussels, Mr. Nakasone took steps to increase Japanese imports. But some Western European officials have complained that the measures were more responsive to U.S. demands than their own.

Defence Promises

On defence, Mr. Nakasone has said he will honour promises to President Reagan to improve Japan's defence capabilities.

However he has made it clear that he has no intention of increasing the limits on defence spending, currently at one per cent of the gross national product (GNP).

The new government's immediate job is to draw up a new budget for the next fiscal year starting in April. Increased spending on defence, along with other problems, is constrained by the need to reduce a huge public debt.

Peru's Maoist rebels enhance control

By Walker Simon
Reuter

LIMA — Peru's Maoist rebels doubled the territory they control last year, stepping up a conflict that threatens the unity of the nation's first democratic government in 15 years.

Disputes on how best to tackle the advances by Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) guerrillas have turned bitter as the conflict escalates.

More than 1,800 people were reported to have died in the fighting last year, up from 130 killed in the opening stage of the insurgency between 1981 and 1982.

Last week, a daring bombing raid on an army base in the heart of Lima raised fears of a renewed guerrilla onslaught on the capital.

Scenes of massacres, splashed on magazine covers and broadcast on television, have fuelled calls for shifts in anti-guerrilla strategy.

On one side, a group of gov-

ernment leaders including the interior minister are pressing President Fernando Belaunde Terry to step up the military's role in the conflict.

On the other, local officials in the zones hardest hit by Sendero, 600 kilometres southeast of here, urge the military's withdrawal and suggest that rebels participate in municipal government.

Over the past year, Sendero has doubled its operations area to nearly 14 per cent of the highlands, according to the interior ministry.

In response, the government has widened its state of emergency, under which the armed forces have supreme authority, to cover the entire 53,600 sq. kilometre zone, an area more than twice the size of El Salvador.

But this has not stopped Sendero stepping up the conflict. Last November they attacked eight cit-

ies in a single day, and, as the new year began, they blew up power pylons throughout Peru, plunging much of the country into darkness.

Inevitably, the circle of violence has attracted foreign attention. The London-based Amnesty International human rights group has accused security forces of summarily executing scores of innocent civilians in the emergency zone.

President Belaunde Terry, fearful that such accusations could tarnish Peru's image, called the organisation a machine to destroy the democracy he restored in 1980 following 12 years of military rule.

Officials have used Peru's democratic image to draw record amounts of foreign aid, sorely needed to help the country overcome its worst recession this century.

Leaders of Mr. Belaunde's own Popular Action (AP) party bla-

med the recession for their crushing defeat in municipal elections last November. Marxists won in Lima and other major cities.

The results injected a new political factor into the Sendero issue. A leftist, Lenonora Zamora, was elected mayor of Ayacucho, the biggest city in the emergency zone.

Mrs. Zamora fought the election on a platform of demanding military withdrawal from the emergency zone. She has called on Sendero to declare a ceasefire and to take part in local government, including an open city council.

Her plans could set the stage for a clash between the military and her local government, a diplomat said.

Jose Maria Galvez Vega, the supreme court president, last October urged the government to probe Amnesty International's charges of human rights abuses.

LETTERS

Unwarranted cynicism

To the Editor:

Being an administrative employee at a diplomatic mission in Amman, and a daily reader of the Jordan Times, I was attracted by the title of Mr. Khairallah's article on parties organised by diplomatic missions (Jordan Times, Jan. 8, 1984). Taking into consideration that no subject in your newspaper appears just to fill its pages, and yet, after reading Mr. Khairallah's article, I found myself mistaken and compelled to write to you. Perhaps you will find me a bit cruel and cynical but having trust in your democratic policy which welcomes free opinion.

I have to point out that this type of self-centred articles where the writer seizes the opportunity to show his modesty and sense of humour and his ability to write, and which was pursued by Mr. Marwan Muasher in some of his writings, can only jeopardise the standard of the Jordan Times.

Yet I must confess that I do envy Mr. Khairallah for his rich English vocabulary and old sayings with which I wish I were bestowed to enable me to enumerate the advantages of diplomatic parties in a most constructive way.

And as long as Mr. Khairallah could not approach the subject and did not cover it thoroughly, I ask his permission to allow me to mention few points about his written subject in my humble English language:

1. Though diplomatic parties appear sometimes to be boring, yet I find them opportunities to be grasped as an indispensable means of media where we can convey our aspirations, sufferings, demands and our legitimate rights to the representatives of foreign countries, specially those who have big roles in the international community.

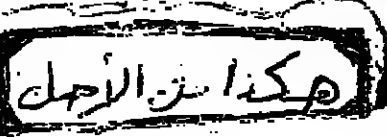
2. The refined parties of the diplomats are in fact rare occasions where we can reflect our heritage: culture, principles, customs and values.

3. These parties are a huge school where we can learn a lot about the outside world.

4. In general, these parties have political, economic and social advantages.

For the above-mentioned reasons, I cannot accept anyone to underestimate diplomatic parties which though necessitate certain requirements yet have their appreciable merits.

Madlen Manuel,
Amman.



Oral Rehydration Therapy: A new cure for child deaths

GENEVA — A simple cure has now been found for the biggest cause of child deaths in the modern world. The cure is called oral rehydration therapy or 'ORT' and it can save the lives of most of the five million children who now die each year from the dehydration caused by ordinary diarrhoea.

Previously, the only effective treatment for dehydration was the intravenous feeding of a saline solution — a cure beyond the physical and financial reach of most of those who need it. Now a child can be rehydrated by drinking a solution of salts, sugar and water

administered by the mother in the child's own home.

So far, 34 developing countries have opened up factories to produce oral rehydration salts and total world production is running at approximately 80 million sachets a year (other countries are concentrating on teaching mothers how to make their own oral rehydration salts from ordinary household ingredients).

Recent campaigns in villages of Guatemala, India, Bangladesh, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Egypt have shown that ORT can reduce child deaths from diarrhoea by

half. Drawing together these examples this year's State of the World's Children report from United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) describes ORT as 'one of the simplest but most important breakthroughs in the history of science'. Nonetheless, the report warns that putting this simple solution into practice might not be quite as simple as it looks.

Promoting ORT

For ORT to really make a difference to child health, says UNICEF, there will have to be an equivalent 'social breakthrough' to

put the technology at the disposal of those who need it. "Only 10 per cent to 20 per cent of children are in contact with the health services," says the report, "and ORT will not come anywhere near its dramatic potential for saving life and health unless it is also promoted through the primary schools and colleges; through the churches and the temples; through the women's nutrition classes and the work place; through the water engineers and extension workers; through the transistor radios and the press; through the television and the video-recorder; through the centres of culture and entertainment; and through every other channel which can reach out to help link present knowledge to people's needs."

Two of the actual case studies covered in the report clearly show that it is this 'social breakthrough' which can make the difference between success or failure for ORT.

Uncertainty of mothers

In the Menoufia area of Egypt's Nile Delta, where 4000 children die every year from diarrhoea, an ORT campaign was launched to teach mothers how to get and use the salts which could save their children's lives. The organisers confidently expected the campaign to cut child deaths by at least a third to a half. But after one year, the campaign had made no real difference. On investigation, it appeared that most mothers were so uncertain about when and how to use the salts that they either didn't use them at all or used them 'too little and too late'.

The moral of Menoufia was an obvious one, says UNICEF — "ORT can only reduce child deaths if mothers are informed and confident about why, when, and how the salts should be used."

In 1980, a different campaign went into action in two more villages in the Nile Delta. Heading the campaign was Doctor Sunny Salam, of the University of Alexandria. And this time the team knew that what was on trial was not ORT but their own ability to put the life-saving salts at the disposal of mothers.

The villages chosen were Berket Ghatas and Kafala — each with a population of around 4000. Careful advance study threw up vital details — like the fact that the commonest kind of drinking glass used in the villages held about 200 ml. For easy measuring of the right mix, that meant that smaller packets of salts were needed. A brand called Rehydram was the one finally chosen.

In both villages, sachets of Rehydram were made available in the normal government health clinics

and volunteers visited every family every two weeks to check on cases of diarrhoea and advise mothers on what to do about it. But in one of the villages — Berket Ghatas — the promotional campaign went way beyond the boundaries of the health service.

In Berket Ghatas, Rehydram was sold in every corner shop and small village store as well as at the health centres. And for a full year, the community was blitzed with information about how to stop diarrhoea from killing children. Meetings were held with community leaders and religious figures as well as doctors. Talks were given in the market-places, in the washing yards, in the schools, and at the festivals as well as at the clinics. Local entertainers were persuaded to include the Rehydram message in folk songs and plays. Cars toured the streets with public address systems blaring advice on oral rehydration. Everywhere, posters reinforced the message.

Community's influence

'In Berket Ghatas,' says Dr. Salam, 'we went into the community because it is not just the mothers who decide what to do about diarrhoea, it is the fathers, grandparents, local healers, shop owners... the whole community influences the way people think and act.'

By the end of the year, every mother in Berket Ghatas had heard about Rehydram and three quarters of them knew how to use it properly. When asked how diarrhoea should be treated, 87 per cent of Berket Ghatas mothers replied 'Rehydram' — as opposed to only 12 per cent in Kafala, where no special promotion campaign had been mounted.

Most important of all, the number of child deaths in Berket Ghatas was more than halved by the oral rehydration campaign.

The basic causes of diarrhoeal infection — inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene — have not been changed in Berket Ghatas. That campaign is still to come. But Dr. Sunny Salam believes that something equally fundamental has been changed by their work. 'This research has left something with this village,' she says, 'changed it in ways you cannot really understand unless you understand Egypt. Before, people did not even think of diarrhoea as a disease, or that it was not natural for children to die from it... But now, we have turned mothers into doctors. They are treating their own children. This change is more important than you can imagine, and to have made this change in people's lives is an accomplishment.' — UNICEF.



"Mummy — what's an uncle?"

China: A land with no uncles?

By Penny Kane

LONDON — China has just over one billion people, and is likely to add 40 per cent more over the next 17 years.

This prospect has led the Chinese government to attempt a unique piece of social engineering: the encouragement of a generation of single child families. The extended families which have formed the basis of Chinese society for centuries will disappear.

Will this destroy China, or — by preserving natural resources — save it? Is China pioneering a line other countries will soon have to follow?

A flourishing family planning programme, especially during the past 15 years, has reduced the average number of children a Chinese woman has to 2.6. However, if the young couples who marry in the next few years stick to that family size, China will have an extra 400 million people by the end of the century.

China, like most developing countries, has a young population. Half of the Chinese are under the age of 21; those from the "baby boom" of the late 1950s and 1960s are now marrying and having families. Life expectancy has almost doubled since 1949.

About 20 million children reach primary school age each year. Educating them and reducing illiteracy among their elders (over a fifth of the people cannot read or write) is a major burden on a poor country. So, too, is the need to find new jobs for some five million school leavers each year. Most are urban youths, but in the countryside there is already up to 30 per cent unemployment in some areas.

China has almost a quarter of the world's people, but lives off

only 9 per cent of the world's arable land. Extremely intensive farming has succeeded only in keeping per capita grain yields level with the population increase since 1949. The amount of land for each person has almost halved during that time.

Land clearance for grain has cost the country some 6.7 million hectares (2.7 million acres) of forest during the same period, and has contributed to the loss of five billion tonnes of soil each year through erosion, as well as to timber shortages which are forecast to affect almost every aspect of the Chinese economy during the next few years.

China's urban population has grown by over 60 per cent since 1964. High levels of industrial pollution limit the development of more heavy industry in major cities. An estimated 10 billion tonnes of airborne soot and 15 million tonnes of carbon dioxide are discharged into the atmosphere annually.

At least 90 per cent of industrial liquid waste is discharged untreated into rivers and streams. Although new anti-pollution laws may begin to reduce the problem, it is against this background that the Chinese see their population problem. In 1980, a group of scientists armed with computers and systems engineering techniques came up with new projections of population size based on economic development, food requirements, ecological balance and water resources.

The conclusion that the most desirable population size for China, 100 years from now, would be around 70 million — roughly half what it is likely to be in the year 2000. They suggested this goal could be met by ensuring single child families for everybody

between 1985 and the end of the century, and then a gradual return over the next 20 years to two children per couple.

Couples who agree to stop at one child enter into a kind of contract with the government. In return, they are promised priority in housing, health care, education and ultimately jobs for the child. Those parents who insist on having more children have a percentage of their salaries deducted: a kind of tax on the extra cost to the community of that child.

The policy has been relatively successful in the cities, with 60/90 per cent of eligible couples pledging the single child. In most cases both husband and wife work; the average urban housing space per person is only 3.5 square metres (37.5 square feet), and most city jobs offer pensions. All these considerations encourage small families.

In the countryside, the policy has been less successful, especially when the first baby is a girl. Parents want sons to support them in old age. This desire has been reinforced by new economic policies under which household income may be increased with increasing numbers of working family members.

Average family size in the countryside remains at just under three children. Where attempts have been made to enforce the single child family, there have been reports of female babies being killed.

Yet unless the policy is accepted among the peasants — who are 80 per cent of China's population — it will not work. If it does not work, "there is little hope of improving the people's living standards," says the Chinese Communist Party. Earthscan feature.

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France faces Denmark in European Soccer Championships finals opener

PARIS (R) — Hosts France will open the European Soccer Championship finals against Denmark in the Parc des Princes stadium, Paris next June, an entertaining prospect provided by the draw here on Tuesday.

France, who were placed in the tougher group, and West Germany, the defending champions, were kept apart in the draw for the eight nations who will contest the finals in seven venues from June 12-27.

Two young schoolboys, making the draw in the blue soccer shirts of France, handed the hosts the harder task by setting them up for matches against the Danes, conquerors of England at Wembley, Belgium, the fastest qualifiers, and Yugoslavia in Group One.

West Germany, champions in 1972 and 1980 and runners-up in 1976, face Portugal, Romania and Spain in section two where they begin their campaign against the Portuguese in Strasbourg, near their own border, on June 14.

Belgium, beaten by West Germany in the 1980 final in Rome, will also be close to home for their opening game against Yugoslavia in Lens on June 13.

French team chief Michel Hidalgo acknowledged it would not be easy for France to win a title which was eluded host nations since Italy won in Rome in 1968.

"It will be a very difficult group but very interesting. I hope the championships will be beautiful," he said after the draw in a Paris hotel.

Jupp Derwall, who masterminded West Germany's 1980

triumph, said guardedly in French: "We all have an equal possibility. We all have a chance to do our best for football."

West Germany were lucky to reach the finals after losing twice to Northern Ireland and scraping through with a late winner against Albania to edge out the Irish on goal difference.

While France were designated team number one in the draw, the West Germans were number five. The two other seeds - Spain and Yugoslavia - were numbered eight and four as the blue spheres containing names and numbers were passed to European Football Union (UEFA) Secretary-General Hans Bangerter.

Spain and Yugoslavia gained their seeded status on the basis of performances in the qualifying rounds of the 1982 World Cup and the current European Championship.

This method benefited Spain, who took maximum points from the World Cup section because, as hosts, they did not play any games and consequently enjoyed maximum points.

It was tough on Belgium, who gained no advantage from reaching the European finals last time. But manager Guy Thys was philosophical. "The two groups are equal. We are very happy with the draw and very happy to play in

Lens," he said.

The top two teams in each group qualify for the semifinals - the winners of the French group playing in Marseille on June 23 and the winners of the West German group in Lyons the next day.

The final will be staged on June 27 in the Parc des Princes stadium, scene of the inaugural European Nations' Cup final in 1960 when the Soviet Union beat Yugoslavia 2-1.

Spain, who won the title in Madrid in 1964, are the only previous champions apart from West Germany to make the finals. Their fortunes have flourished under Miguel Moniz since the disappointments of the 1982 World Cup, but they needed a spectacular 12-1 eclipse of Italia to squeeze out the Netherlands in their last qualifying match.

Denmark, England's conquerors, plan to carry on in the exhilarating way they swept home in their qualifying group, despite a late hitch against Hungary.

"At first sight we're in the toughest group with very interesting opponents," manager Sepp Piontek said. "But we hope, with our uncomplicated style, to determine the way things will go right from the start of the championships."

West Germany paid for overconfidence in the 1982 World Cup and were quickly brought down to earth by Algeria, who beat them in their first match in Spain.

Derwall, more guarded than ever now, said: "When one considers the teams Portugal, Romania and Spain have beaten in the qualifying groups, that has to mean something." But his assistant Horst Koepfel reckoned West Germany had got the draw

they wanted. "Group one is essentially stronger," he said.

World champions Italy, 1976 European champions Czechoslovakia, the perennially strong Soviet team, and the five representatives from the British Isles all fell by the wayside.

But UEFA President Jacques George, opening Tuesday's ceremony, said he was sure the eight finalists were "the eight best teams in Europe at the moment".

The eight finalists will have to travel widely because the organisers have decided each team should play its first round matches in different towns.

Thus France meet Denmark in Paris in the north on June 12, move west to face Belgium in Nantes on June 16 and travel southeast to play Yugoslavia in Saint-Etienne on June 19.

If they win their group they will play their semifinals in Lyons on June 23 and, if successful again, return to Paris for the final on June 27 after a total journey of some 1,400 km.

A saga of similar success for West Germany would take the defending champions from Strasbourg in the east to Lens in the

northeast, Paris, Marseille on the south coast and back to Paris. The last two legs of the journey from Paris to Marseille and back would alone take them 1,400 km.

In the under-21 championship quarter-final draw, England were paired with France, Scotland with Yugoslavia, Albania, surprise qualifiers ahead of West Germany, with Italy, and Poland with Spain.

Soviet chess player arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Vladimir Bajirov, the Soviet chess player, arrived here Monday for a week-long visit to Jordan during which he will deliver a number of lectures on chess at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

Mr. Bajirov lectures will be held at the Royal Chess Club on Thursday and Friday.

Coetzee names unranked American for first WBA title defence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight champion Gerrie Coetzee has named little known American Jeff Sims as the likely opponent for his first title defence, it was reported Tuesday.

The South African Press Association quoted Coetzee as saying

the light against Sims, who is not ranked in the WBA's top ten, would take place in South Africa in April or May.

"There is no doubt in my mind that Sims will be my opponent, although he might become entangled in an elimination fight against Spain's Alfredo Evangelista," Coetzee said.

"But my American sources told me there is no way that Evangelista could beat Sims should an elimination be necessary."

The Spaniard is 11th in the WBA rankings. Coetzee, who won the world title when he knocked out Michael Dokes last September, said, he would begin serious training next week.

Australia beats Pakistan, records 1st World Series win

SYDNEY (R) — Australia recorded their first World Series one-day cricket cup win Tuesday when two crucial run outs denied Pakistan an upset victory.

The Australians, who lost to the West Indies in the first match of the triangular series, defeated Pakistan by 34 runs in an exciting day-night match at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Pakistan, set a formidable 265 to win, lost three wickets for only 33 runs before Imran Khan joined Javed Miandad, his predecessor as captain, at the wicket.

The pair stopped the collapse, then went on the offensive to add 86 quick runs before disaster struck.

Miandad set off for a quick run, changed his mind and Imran was run out for 39.

Miandad did his best to compensate, adding another whirlwind 56 runs including 31 off three consecutive overs with Miansoor Akhtar, before he was himself run out for 67 going for a risky second run.

The volatile Pakistani was upset at the decision and threw down his

bat in disgust, fully aware that with 90 runs still needed the match was effectively Australia's.

With the tail offering little resistance the Pakistanis finished their 50 overs on 230 for nine.

Australia built their innings on a superb 141-run partnership between South African-born opener Kenner Wessels, who was in danger of losing his place, and fellow-Joenslander Allan Border.

Wessels, named Man of the Match, lashed 92 runs as he and Border pulled the Australians round from 17 for two.

Opening bowler Sarfraz Nawaz was responsible for the early collapse, dismissing opener Wayne Phillips and captain Kim Hughes in a superb opening spell and it was the veteran paceman who also finally removed both Wessels and the consistent Border who hit 54.

But Sarfraz, who finished with four for 27 from his 11 overs, was the only effective bowler in a ragged Pakistani attack which was savaged in an 86-run fifth wicket

partnership between left-handers Rodney Marsh and David Hookes.

Wicketkeeper Marsh's bludgeoning 66 provided an effective reply to press reports suggesting he should retire. Marsh broke his bat with one mighty four and on reaching his 50 he made a gesture to the press box.

Mohsin Khan and Mudassar Nazar compiled a promising opening stand of 31 but then lost both openers and Qasim Omar in quick succession against some fiery bowling from Carl Rackemann and Geoff Lawson. Rackemann took the Australian bowling honours with three for 35 and both Lawson and Rodney Hogg were always threatening.

Imran later defended Miandad's actions.

"There is always pressure in one-day games, we had to score quickly and that sort of thing happens without it being planned," he said.

But Hughes was far from impressed and he said it was obvious that Miandad should be censured.

Hanika pulls out of Oakland tennis

OAKLAND, California (R) — Fourth seed Sylvia Hanika of West Germany withdrew Monday night in favour of unseeded American Anne Smith in the first round of a \$150,000 women's tennis tournament after losing the first set 7-5.

Hanika, runner-up here last year, dropped out of a Washington tournament last week with influenza.

"I thought I could play today, but I was too weak," she said.

Smith, a 24-year-old university student and assistant coach who plays the circuit part-time, said she entered the Oakland event to maintain her ranking. She is listed

at 28th, having quit international competition last year after the French Open.

Despite Hanika's ranking as fifth highest in the world, Smith has won four times against her in the past.

Earlier, American Pam Shriver swept past Italy's Anna Maria Cecina 6-1, 6-2, in what she said was the "toughest indoor event of the season."

And Lisa Bonder of the United States beat Romania's Virginia Ruzici 7-5, 7-6.

Seven of the world's top 10 players are among a field of 32 vying for the \$32,000 winner's purse.

Shriver is seeded third behind top-seeded Martina Navratilova and Andrea Jaeger.

Shriver, ranked fourth in the world, lost only four points on her serve against her less experienced opponent in a match which lasted only 40 minutes.

Other players who reached the second round were Americans Bonnie Gadusek and Kathy Rinaldi and Bulgarian vianuela valceva.

Valceva beat Kim Shaeffer (U.S., 7-6, 6-2); Rinaldi beat Kathleen Cummings (U.S., 6-3, 6-4); and Gadusek beat Claudia Knoch-Kilsch (West Germany, 7-5, 6-4).

ATP honours McEnroe

NEW YORK (R) — John McEnroe was named recipient of the Jaks award as Player of the Year by fellow members of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Monday night.

It was the second time the New Yorker had received the award, which is decided by a vote among members of the ATP, the players' union. He was previously honoured in 1981.

Other awards went to 19-year-old American Jimmy Arias as the most improved player, McEnroe and Peter Fleming as Doubles Team of the Year, Scott Davis of the U.S. as Newcomer of the Year, and Spain's Jose Higueras as Sportsman of the Year.

Walker wins mile series

NELSON, New Zealand (R) — John Walker of New Zealand held off Kenya's Mike Bolt Monday night to win the last of three one-mile races and scoop the title for the series.

Walker's winning time of 3 minutes 50.5 seconds along the main street of Nelson followed his

victory in the first race in Mount Maunganui and second place to Australia's Mike Hillard on Paraparaumu beach near Wellington.

Bolt was timed at 3:54.3 on Monday night's course which was uphill over the last 300 yards. Australian Gerrard Ryan was third in 3:55.5.

George Best makes another comeback

LONDON (R) — George Best is to make yet another soccer comeback, this time with a minor Irish team.

The 37-year-old former Northern Ireland international will play for Tobermore United, who have signed him essentially to boost their Irish Cup challenge.

Herbert Patterson, assistant manager for the club who are

based in South Londonderry, said Monday: "He will be on a month's agreement." The fee was not disclosed.

Best, who helped England's Manchester United win the European Cup in 1968, has been making comeback appearances for more than 10 years with teams in Britain and the United States.

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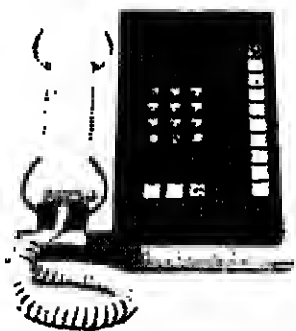
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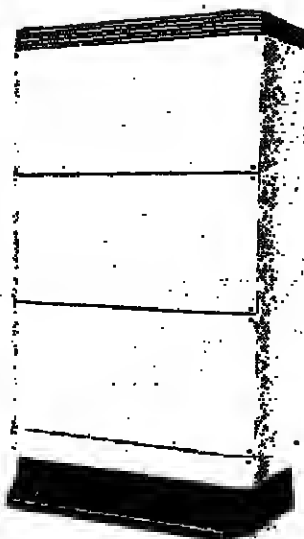
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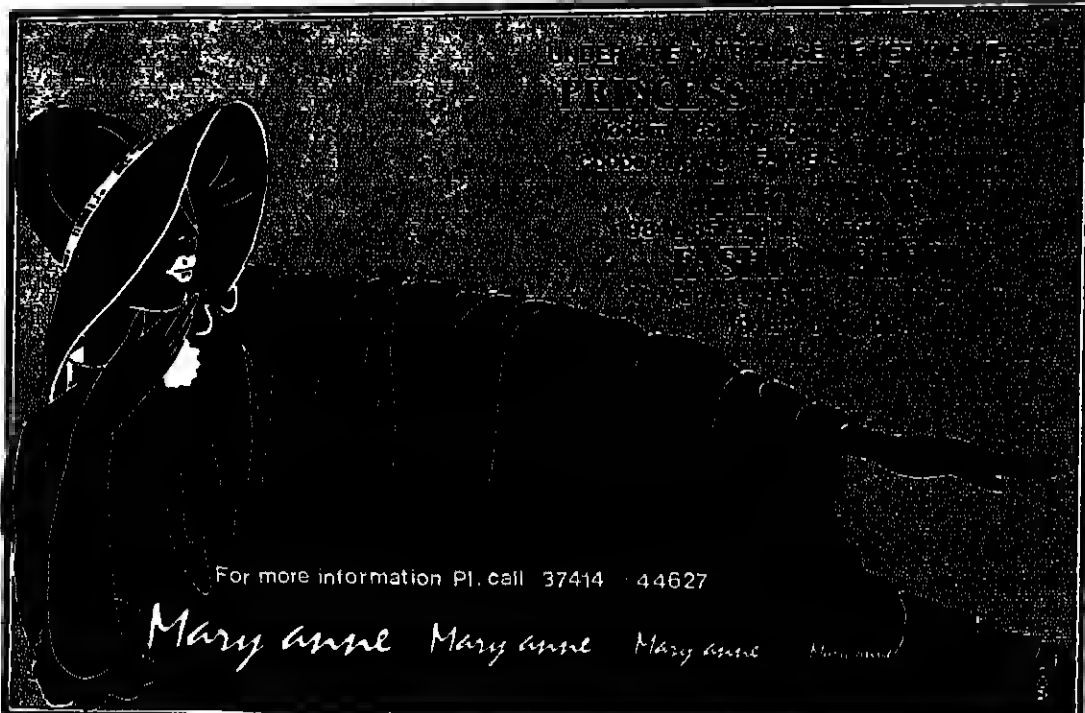
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Dollar dips but likely to rise again soon

LONDON (R) — The U.S. dollar paused Tuesday in its recent headlong rise on foreign exchange markets, retreating from Monday's record highs against major currencies.

West Germany's mark, at the centre of the past week's hectic trading, opened in Frankfurt at 2.844 to the dollar after briefly touching 2.85 in Far Eastern markets overnight. During morning trading it recovered steadily, reaching 2.811 to the dollar by early afternoon.

West Germany's central bank, the Bundesbank, which is thought to have sold as much as \$500 million Monday in a vain attempt to shore up the mark, was not detected in the market Tuesday.

One dealer in Frankfurt said the Bundesbank had received little support from other central banks in recent days and could not drain its currency reserves indefinitely. But dealers said profit-taking in the Far East and large orders for

the mark from the United States had steadied the markets, and in busy trading sterling and the Swiss and French francs also recouped some of their recent losses.

Sterling, at an all-time low of \$1.3865 in Hong Kong earlier Tuesday, climbed back to \$1.4045, well above its closing London figure Monday of \$1.4020.

The French franc began at 8.6825 to the dollar but improved strongly to 8.6050, while the Swiss franc pulled back more than 2 cents to 2.2385.

Dealers said the markets were nervous over possible official intervention, despite Monday's meeting of central bankers at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) in Basle, which produced no

plan for concerted action against the dollar.

Most dealers still believe in the dollar's basic strength and predict the mark will fall to 3 to the dollar or even further in the short-term.

But senior European bankers believe a reversal is inevitable sooner or later, and some operators have preferred to take their profits now.

Dealers said U.S. economic indicators for December, due later this week, were likely to give the dollar fresh momentum.

Political tension has for the moment faded as a factor supporting the dollar, they said, and the indicators, including retail

sales, wholesale prices and industrial production, are expected to join high U.S. interest rates in reasserting the dollar's attraction.

No serious problem for Bonn

Meanwhile, a senior government official in Bonn said Tuesday that the surging dollar posed no serious problem for West Germany and that any moves to decouple European currencies from the U.S. unit would run counter to Bonn's interests.

Mr. Friedrich Voss, parliamentary state secretary at the finance ministry, was responding to a call by former labour minister

Mr. Herbert Ehrenberg, now an opposition economics spokesman, for immediate European Community action to defend Europe's currencies against the dollar.

"There are no grounds for over-concern about the current steep rise of the dollar," he said in a statement, adding that it made West German exports more competitive.

Mr. Helmut Geiger, president of the West German Savings Banks Association, said in a radio interview the respective performances of the U.S. and West German economies would point to a dollar worth only about 2.30 marks.

"But sense will prevail on the currency markets in the course of this year," he predicted.

In a newspaper interview, Mr. Ehrenberg proposed untying Western Europe's links with the dollar and high U.S. interest rates — one of the main causes of the dollar surge.

Mr. Voss said the idea of decoupling the European Community currencies from the dollar was not new, but would either mean further devaluation of the mark or increased central bank intervention to support the currency.

Mr. Ehrenberg also called for a European tax on capital exports to halt the flight into the dollar.

Peking announces oil find in S. China Sea

PEKING (R) — The first well drilled by British Petroleum (B.P.) in cooperation with China's Nanhai East Oil Corp in the South China Sea has struck oil, China radio said Tuesday. The 3,351-metre exploratory well in the Pearl River basin struck oil and provided worthwhile material and data, the news broadcast said. The Nanhai platform 2 rig began drilling in October about 320 kilometres offshore in the Pearl River Basin, which most industry sources agree is potentially the most fruitful of China's possible offshore oilfields. Industry sources said more drilling was necessary before oil in commercial quantities was proved.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Although the early morning can bring some frustrations, you will later find that you are under excellent influences for new courses of action. Be alert to new opportunities.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Steer clear of a bigwig in the morning who can deter your progress. Try to see as many good friends as you possibly can.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Morning finds it rough sledding with a new venture but later all works out well. Come to a better understanding with a wise partner.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) In the morning, a friend can be disappointing but later you can gain your aims. Be with good friends in the evening. Spend money wisely.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Do nothing in the morning to spoil your present position. Contact higher-ups and gain the support you need for your latest ventures.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Make sure you keep promises you have made in the morning. Make new contacts who can be of assistance to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get that account paid up early on which you have been procrastinating. Overlook weakness and concentrate on your mate's strong points.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Renew worthwhile agreements with partners. A worldly matter could be confusing early. Be dynamic.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Morning finds you feeling lackadaisical, but later become very energetic and accomplish a good deal. Take it easy tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) The morning could be rather dull, but later you can have a very enjoyable time at whatever interests you most. Your creativity is high.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Morning finds a home tie giving you trouble but later family affairs can be handled very nicely. Be very alert at driving.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A delay in communicating is only temporary and later everything works out as you want it to. Call on friends.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Monetary matters should be uppermost on your mind today, so handle them with finesse. Decide on property improvements.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will someone who may find it difficult to concentrate early in life but once the interest is aroused, will quickly make progress and even get ahead of others. Your progeny could do very well in any intellectual profession.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed easier after a quiet session and at 1.50 hrs. the F.T. index was off 4.2 at 795.8.

The recent advance attracted light profit-taking but some issues closed above the day's lows. The rise in the U.K. December money supply were at the top end of some forecasts and was a disappointment, but the fall in government bonds were limited to about 1/4 helped by the higher opening trend in U.S. credit markets, dealers said.

Gold shares firmed with the bullion price and North American stocks were mixed.

ICI fluctuated to show a 2p fall at 64 1/2 while Blue Circle was 8p off at 420. B.P. fell 8p to 395 after the abandonment of the first well drilled in the South China Sea but steadied to 410p at the close.

BTR firmed 11p to 434 after news of the sale of its U.S. subsidiary Alpha Metals to the Cookson group for £18.9 million. Cookson fell 11p to 261. Tea shares gained up to 5p.

Charter Consolidated rose 15p to 248 following reappraisal of news that it will take a 24.9 per cent stake in stockbrokers Rowe and Pitman.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.3900/4000	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2312/15	Canadian dollars
	2.8251/60	West German marks
	3.1705/15	Dutch guilders
	2.2450/65	Swiss francs
	57.59/63	Belgian francs
	8.6270/6320	French francs
	1714.00/1715.00	Italian lire
	234.15/25	Japanese yen
	8.1951/2000	Swedish crowns
	7.9400/50	Norwegian crowns
	101.2275/2325	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	369.00/369.50	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"It's Irish coffee! Four ounces of instant coffee with two ounces of ground shamrocks!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ABOUT

GLAVE

TOYBUN

MADGEA

THE FARMER BECAME ANGRY WHEN SOMEONE MANAGED TO DO THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: HIS

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: YOUTH BEIGE HANGER CONVOY
Answer: What the doctor said about the condition of the guy who had swallowed a half-dollar — NO CHANGE YET

NEWS IN BRIEF

IDB extends loan to N. Yemen

BAHRAIN (R) — The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank said Monday it had extended a loan of \$1.8 million to North Yemen for machinery and equipment for the production of marble. A bank statement received here said North Yemen had received loans totalling \$23.8 million from the bank in 1983.

International jute organisation launched

DHAKA (OPECNA) — Jute producing and consuming countries Monday launched the International Jute Organisation (IJO) with its headquarters here. The new international body, grouping 5 jute producing and 19 consuming countries, was set up following 6 years of hard negotiations. The group would increase competitiveness of jute against synthetic substitutes, a Bangladesh official said. Bangladesh is the world's largest jute producer.

Enka Holding wins \$50m Gulf loan

ISTANBUL (R) — The Turkish industrial and construction contractor Enka Holding has won a \$50 million loan from 5 Gulf banks and one Singapore bank, company officials said Tuesday. The loan will be used by Enka's 5 constructing companies in Middle East countries, company officials said. Enka has contracts worth over \$1 billion in Middle East countries. A \$30 million portion of the loan will be in the form of letters of guarantee and 2 \$10 million portions will be in cash and used for import financing, the officials said.

GCC agriculture ministers meet

DOHA (OPECNA) — Agriculture ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states are to meet here Tuesday to discuss common agricultural policy and approve a number of joint projects. The meeting will also consider specific recommendations on promoting agricultural cooperation among GCC countries and technical plans on water resources, land utilisation and veterinary quarantine.

Banks to discuss credit to Qatari firm

DOHA (R) — A number of banks meet Tuesday in London to discuss final terms on a \$100 million 8-year syndicated credit for the Qatar Petrochemical Company (Qapco). Gulf banking sources said Tuesday, Qapco is 84 per cent owned by Qatar General Petroleum Corporation and 16 per cent by the CDF-Chimie Petrochem subsidiary of Charbonnages de France, they said. The loan will be guaranteed by Qatar's ministry of finance and petroleum raised by the company in 1982. The new loan will be used partly to refinance a 1982 credit. About \$70 million will go to financing new work at the company's loss-making petrochemical plant at Umm Said.

Oman's oil production rises

MUSCAT (R) — Oman's oil output has reached 400,000 barrels a day (b/d), up nearly 25 per cent from its level a year ago, the head of the sultanate's national oil company has said.

European industry says reprisals against U.S. tax possible

BRUSSELS (R) — The United States could face reprisals if American states persist in taxing the worldwide income of brightly-lit firms operating within their borders, a spokesman for a European industry lobby group said Tuesday.

The spokesman for the Union of European Community Industries (Unice) told Reuters that countries whose companies were hit by the so-called unitary tax system could be prompted to renegotiate double taxation agreements with the U.S., with adverse effects on U.S. corporation subsidiaries in Europe.

The spokesman said the British government was already studying the possibility of such a reprisal if U.S. federal authorities do not act to curb unitary tax, which is now levied in at least 23 American states.

The U.S. supreme court Monday refused to get involved in the unitary tax controversy by deciding not to consider an appeal by Alcan Aluminum of Montreal against California's unitary tax.

The tax issue has caused friction for some time between the United States and its major trading partners which claim it exposes foreign corporations to multiple taxation and thus imposes a burden

on international trade and investment.

Last month the U.S. supreme court ruled that Shell Petroleum of the Netherlands had no legal right to challenge California's unitary tax rule on behalf of its American subsidiaries.

European commission sources said no new developments were likely in the fight against unitary tax before a working group set up by President Reagan reports in February or March.

In talks with U.S. officials in Brussels last month, the commission called for U.S. federal government action to stop unitary taxation.

The sources quoted U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan as saying then that the Reagan administration was hesitant about legislating against the tax because it raised sensitive questions about states' rights.

The Unice spokesman said he expected little movement on the issue until after the U.S. presidential and congressional elections in November.

The commission sources said unitary taxation violated the 1977 model double taxation convention of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Imelda Marcos signs trade accord with China

PEKING (R) — The wife of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Tuesday signed a trade accord before leaving for home after a 4-day visit to China, the New China News Agency said.

The agency quoted Mrs. Imelda Marcos as saying the two countries intended to trade goods worth \$500 million a year under the agreement, signed with Vice-Premier Wan Li Tuesday afternoon.

In 1982, Sino-Philippines trade totalled 703 million yuan (5352 million).

On Saturday President Marcos said his wife would promote Philippines products in China in an attempt to reduce China's \$100 million trade surplus with the Philippines.

A presidential palace spokesman added that the delegation, would also try to interest China in buying 6000 million of treasury bonds.

She and Mr. Wan Li also signed agreements aimed at increasing cultural, scientific and technical cooperation.

Peanuts

Dear Sweetheart,
Without you my
days are endless.

Days seem like
weeks...weeks like
months...

Months like years...
Years like centuries...
Centuries like...

You get the idea.

Mutt 'n' Jeff

MUTT, HOW
DO YOU WANT
YOUR STEAK
COOKED?

RARE, RARE,
RARE!

NEVER MIND
THE COLLEGE
CHEER!

DO YOU
CALL THAT
RARE?

CERTAINLY!
DID YOU
EVER SEE
ONE LIKE
IT?

Andy Capp

NO GO, I ONLY SELL PIGEONS
TO BLOKES WHO KNOW HOW
TO HANDLE 'EM AND LOOK
AFTER 'EM PROPERLY

SORRY, MATE,
BUT THAT'S THE
WAY I AM

DEFINITELY,
ANDY, I'M
JUST THE
SAME MYSELF...

HANG ON TO YOUR
PRINCIPLES — TILL
YOU GET A
BETTER CASH OFFER

THE Daily Crossword by Bernice Gordon

ACROSS

1 Dugout
5 Le — Milan
10 Detect
14 Kind of
15 Acts as a
16 Eya attit-
17 Informal
19 Fountain
20 Officer on
21 Chatter
23 Wallach of
24 Mature
25 Medicated
dosage

DOWN

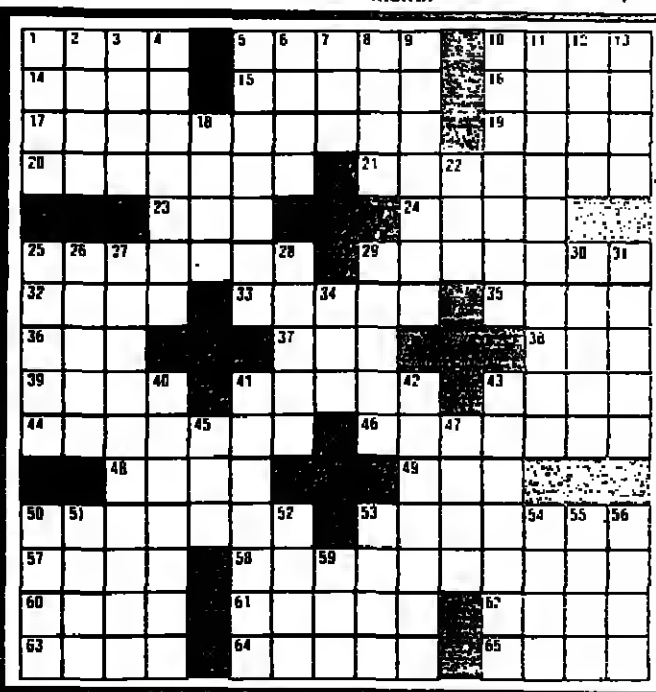
29 Mora pre-
cocious
32 Emulate a
pfeffer
33 Torment
35 Land of
37 Leslie —
38 Tokyo
39 Land of
41 Funnymen
43 Distribute
44 Ring-shaped
46 Sunshade
48 Prohibi-
tionists
49 Foreach

**50 In conse-
quence of
which**
53 Silent star
Babe
57 Leslie —
58 Infant
60 Apparel
61 Columnist
62 Novel by
Maurois
63 Playthings
64 Tale
65 Side dish

**18 Washed-out
looking**
22 UN name
25 Melodic
subject
26 Poet Wylan
27 Hollywood
eatery
28 Animal
trail
29 Denude
30 Muse of
poetry
31 Drive back
34 Branch
40 Pleasure
carriages
41 Winter
melons
42 In a compe-
tent way
43 Mooring
docks
45 Livium
47 Gambling
town
50 Interroga-
tive
51 Man of the
road
52 Bakery
item
53 Fabric
colorer
54 Chemical
compound
55 — Home
56 State of
agitation
59 Subj.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

FROM US AND
HEMI FINGERLING
AMEN FINGERLING
WINDING FINGERLING
PAINTING FINGERLING
UPON FINGERLING
YRIG FINGERLING
YON FINGERLING
LINDING FINGERLING
GRACE FINGERLING
EDWIN FINGERLING
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NATO finalises proposals for Stockholm conference

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO countries Tuesday finalised proposals for a conference on disarmament in Europe opening next week in Stockholm, at which the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers will meet for the first time in four months.

Slender hopes for an improvement in East-West relations are pinned on the 35-nation Stockholm gathering following Moscow's suspension of all major arms control forums.

Next Wednesday, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko are due to hold their first talks since an angry confrontation in Madrid last September.

Atlantic alliance officials said Tuesday's meeting of NATO ambassadors and national delegation leaders was putting final touches to a package of proposals aimed at reducing the risk of surprise attack or accidental war in Europe.

The measures sought by NATO include compulsory advance notification to troop movements and exercises, regular exchanges of information on armed forces, improved crisis communications and facilities for military observers.

Such so-called confidence-building measures, rather than disarmament, will be the main theme of the first phase of the conference, expected to last several years.

The Stockholm meeting, an offshoot of the conference on security and co-operation in Europe which ended in Madrid last September, will group the United States, Canada and all European countries except Albania.

President Reagan said last week the presence of Mr. Shultz and the 15 other NATO foreign ministers at next Tuesday's opening ceremony "will underline the importance of the West attaches to... a productive East-West dialogue."

NATO officials warned against expecting a spectacular breakthrough to revive U.S.-Soviet talks on medium-range and strategic nuclear arms which Moscow broke off last year in protest at NATO's deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

"We see no sign that there'll be a breakthrough or even a move to resume the Geneva talks, though we'd be delighted if it happened," one senior alliance official said.

The last Shultz-Gromyko talks in Madrid were marked by bitter recrimination over the Soviet shooting down of a South Korean airliner last Sept. 1.

Mr. Gromyko appeared to rule out a Soviet concession on the nuclear arms talks last week when he reiterated Moscow's demand that the West must first be willing to return to the situation which existed before the deployment of U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Britain, West Germany and Italy.

Tuesday's NATO meeting was expected to discuss how to handle anticipated Soviet proposals at the Stockholm meeting for nuclear-free zones, a European non-aggression pact and renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons.

The Western alliance regards such ideas as best irrelevant and at worst a threat to its security, since it says the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact has much larger conventional forces in Europe.

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Afghan rebels claim killing 100 soldiers

ISLAMABAD (R) — Anti-Communist guerrillas killed more than 100 soldiers and shot down two MIG fighter aircraft in battles this month in and around the southern Afghanistan city of Kandahar, Western diplomats here reported Tuesday.

The diplomats said the dead included some Soviet soldiers but they did not know how many.

They said the MIGs were shot down when making raids on rebel positions on the outskirts of Kandahar, the country's second largest city and capital of Kandahar province bordering Pakistan.

Kandahar has been reported by diplomats to be the scene of heavy fighting since late last month when guerrillas killed 31 Afghan and Soviet soldiers in an attack on army garrison there.

The diplomats, who receive information from their missions in the Afghan capital Kabul, also reported heavy rebel activity recently in the provinces of Herat, Ghazni and Paktia but at a low level in Kabul itself.

The western town of Herat was without electricity for two weeks until last Thursday because of possible rebel sabotage of transmission lines and was also short of food supplies, they said.

The diplomats said refugees are continuing to leave Kandahar for neighbouring Iran. Those still living in the city go to their business early in the morning and remain off the streets to avoid clashes between guerrillas and troops.

The security situation had also deteriorated in the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif where shops now close as early as 4 p.m., the diplomats said.

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Vatican announces full ties with U.S.

VATICAN CITY (R) — The Vatican and the United States have established full diplomatic relations, the Vatican announced Tuesday.

Vatican spokesman Father Romeo Panciroli said the upgrading of relations took effect from Tuesday.

A Vatican statement said: "The Holy See and the United States of America, desiring to develop the already friendly relations that exist, have decided by common accord to establish between them diplomatic relations at the level of Apostolic Nunciature on the part of the Holy See and of embassy on the part of the United States of America, from Tuesday Jan. 11, 1984."

Father Panciroli did not announce the name of the Vatican's Nuncio. Vatican sources said he is expected to be the current Apostolic delegate to the United States, Archbishop Pio Laghi.

Washington is expected to announce later Tuesday that President Reagan has named William Wilson, currently Mr. Reagan's

personal envoy to the Holy See, as ambassador.

Diplomats described Tuesday's move as the most important recognition of Vatican diplomacy since Britain re-established full ties with the Vatican in 1982 after more than four centuries.

The Vatican, which was eager to establish full relations with the United States, had been waiting for a decision from Washington since November, when Mr. Reagan signed a bill passed by Congress that lifted an 1867 ban on funding for relations with the Vatican.

The source said the final decision was made Monday in Washington.

Diplomats in Rome have said the U.S. move was one of the most important recognitions of the Vatican's diplomatic prestige and moral authority.

But they said Mr. Reagan was taking a moderate political risk in an election year because of opposition from U.S. protestant groups that have claimed relations would be a de facto recognition of

a church and not a state.

The protestant groups have said the move would violate the constitution's stipulation of church-state separation by giving special recognition to one religion.

But the Reagan administration felt the United States was at a disadvantage because many nations, even some with small Roman Catholic populations, have full relations with the Vatican, a sovereign city-state.

Vatican and diplomatic sources have said Pope John Paul's prestige and his work in favour of peace were key factors in the United States' decision to establish relations.

The United States had consular relations with the papal states from 1797 until the ban went into effect 70 years later. Since Franklin Roosevelt all American presidents except Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson have had personal envoys at the Vatican.

The Vatican currently has full diplomatic relations with more than 100 countries.

Danish Conservative premier set to win working majority in election

COPENHAGEN (R) — Danes began voting in a general election Tuesday as the latest opinion polls showed that outgoing Conservative Prime Minister Poul Schluter would win a narrow working majority in the 179-member parliament.

According to two polls published Tuesday in national newspaper, Mr. Schluter's centre-right coalition government will boost its standing, but not quite win an outright majority.

However, with the support of the radical Liberal Party, a small centrist grouping, he will be able to pass the economic austerity measures whose rejection last month sparked the snap election.

The radicals have indicated they would be prepared to cooperate with the government and Mr. Schluter himself has said he would

consider a majority with the radicals as a clear mandate from the electorate.

If Mr. Schluter and his allies fail to secure an overall majority, the election could still leave Denmark prone to the successive parliamentary crises typical of the last 16 months of minority government.

But a Gallup poll in the conservative Berlingske Tidende daily predicted that, with the radicals, Mr. Schluter would have a majority of at least two seats.

Some 13 parties are contesting the election, ranging from a pro-Albanian Communist Party to an Anti-Tax Party whose leader is in prison for tax fraud.

Unlike most other European democracies, fringe parties stand a good chance of being elected because they need just two per cent of

the national vote to get into parliament.

Voting got off to a slow start when the polls opened in bright, crisp weather. But turnout is expected to be over 90 per cent, one of the highest in Europe.

Mr. Schluter called the election last month after parliament rejected his cost-cutting budget. The election will be the first parliamentary test for the four coalition parties which took over in 1982 after the resignation of Social Democratic Premier Anker Joergensen and his minority government.

No single party has ever won an absolute majority in the Danish parliament. Minority governments have characterised the country's politics since the end of World War II and there have been elections every two years since 1971.

N.Korea rules out reunification talk

TOKYO (R) — North Korean President Kim Il-Sung has ruled out talks with South Korean authorities on reunification of the divided country, the North Korean Central News Agency (KNA) reported Tuesday.

Mr. Kim denounced South Korea's rulers as "thorough stooges of U.S. imperialism" and said "there is no need at all to discuss with them the question of reunification." KNA quoted the official daily Rodong Sinmun as reporting.

Mr. Kim's remarks were made on Nov. 16 to a visiting Romanian Communist Party delegation. But KNA published the speech after South Korean Foreign Ministry

sources said on Sunday that Pyongyang had, through China, proposed direct talks with the United States and would not object to Seoul taking part in such discussions.

"The agency has carried no direct North Korean comment on the report from Seoul."

However KNA quoted Mr. Kim as saying on the same occasion that "it is necessary, above all, to ease tension between the North and the South and remove the danger of war from our country."

The war provocation manoeuvres of the South Korean rulers at present are a main stumbling block barring dialogue between

the North and the South," he was quoted as saying.

But he added that North Korea would hold reunification talks "with anyone who opposes a fratricidal war, demands a guarantee for democracy in South Korea and the withdrawal of U.S. imperialist forces from South Korea."

Japan's Kyodo News Service said publication of the KNA report Tuesday, one day after Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang arrived in Washington, could be intended as a timely restatement of the North Korean position on re-unification.

Mr. Zhao may discuss the Korean question with U.S. officials during his visit.

Taiwan opposition agree to merge

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's small opposition groups have agreed to settle their differences and merge to face the ruling Kuomintang (Nationalist Party), an opposition spokesman said Tuesday.

He told Reuters that the groups agreed at a meeting Monday to form a united front following recent elections in which opposition candidates won only nine in the 71 parliamentary seats contested.

He said the front would be called the Tangwai Support Association, an opposition party in all but name. Tangwai means those outside the (Nationalist) Party.

Opposition parties are banned under martial law in Taiwan which has been under Nationalist rule since 1949.

Kuomintang officials declined immediate comment on the grouping. One official indicated the authorities would probably look into the legality of the association

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Nicaragua says peace still threatened

MANAGUA (R) — Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said Monday Nicaragua is satisfied with the outcome of the weekend Contadora meeting in Panama City but warned that "peace is still in danger in Central America."

Mr. D'Escoto arrived from Panama, where five Central American countries agreed on measures drafted by their counterparts of the Contadora Group — Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama — aimed at bringing stability to the volatile region.

"It would be dangerous to create false expectations," said Mr. D'Escoto, although he added that "what was accomplished in the meeting over the weekend is the most important (development) of the entire Contadora process."

The Contadora document includes proposals for an arms inventory, a timetable for eventual elimination of foreign military advisers and prohibition of the use of one country's territory in destabilising another.

The diplomat said the threat to peace remained as long as U.S. troops remained in neighbouring Honduras and military manoeuvres continued there.

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Sri Lankan conference asks parties to reconsider boycott

COLOMBO (R) — A conference on Sri Lanka's ethnic problem adjourned on its first day Tuesday with an appeal to two parties to reconsider their boycott of the talks.

The main opposition party, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), led by former Prime Minister Sirima Bandaranaike, has refused to attend the government-sponsored talks on relations between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

A leftist group, the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna (People's United Front), also stayed away. It called the agenda unacceptable and said the talks should not be restricted to political parties.

But President Junius Jayewardene told the opening session Tuesday that he had also invited Buddhist, Muslim and Sinhalese community representatives.

An official statement said the meeting Tuesday unanimously decided to invite the SLFP and People's United Front "to take part in the deliberations of the conference in the national interest."

The statement said the conference, originally scheduled to hold a second session Tuesday,

had adjourned until Wednesday evening to allow the two parties to take part. There was no immediate reaction from the two parties.

Diplomatic sources described the SLFP boycott as disappointing because the party's support would be needed to implement any decisions reached at the conference.

Eight other parties are taking part, including the major Tamil party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), which has campaigned for a separate Tamil state.

Mr. Jayewardene called the conference, described by local newspapers as the last chance for ethnic harmony, after six days of rioting in July when nearly 400 people were killed in attacks on Tamils.

Armed police and riot squads are standing by to enforce security at the conference venue. Seven days have been set aside for the talks.

Political sources said Mr. Jayewardene's proposals for the talks envisioned a united Sri Lanka with more autonomy for Tamils through the creation of regional councils in the northern and eastern provinces where most of them live.

Judge gives 14 life terms to 'hillside stranglers'

LOS ANGELES (R) — A judge sentenced two men to a total of 14 terms of life imprisonment Monday for the "hillside strangler" rape-torture killings that terrorised Los Angeles six years ago.

Los Angeles superior court judge Ronald George said in passing sentence: "If ever there was a case where the death penalty were appropriate, it was this case."

He told car upholsterer Angelo Buono and his cousin, Kenneth Bianchi: "I'm sure you will get your thrills living over and over again the torture of your victims... and not feel any remorse."

Mr. Buono, 49, convicted of killing nine of 10 young women, was given nine concurrent life terms without the possibility of parole.

Mr. Bianchi, 32, a security guard, who pleaded guilty to five of the murders in return for a prosecution promise that he would not be sentenced to death, received five life terms, also to run concurrently.

"Mr. Bianchi and Mr. Buono should never see the outside of prison walls once placed there," the judge said. "Their sentences should never be commuted."

The ten women were murdered over period of four months starting on Oct. 18, 1977. They were raped and tortured before being strangled with ropes, electrocuted or, in one case, injected with poison.

Their naked bodies were dumped on hillsides around Los Angeles.

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